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TUESDAY 19 MARCH 1996 40p (1R 45p)

Extravagance is back in fashion

Reports from the Paris catwalks

Tory summit on 'feelgood factor' crisis

Major offensive as polls slump

Chief Political Correspondent

John Major has summoned

senior ministers to a Cabinet summit meeting tomorrow to try to solve the mystery of the missing "feel-good factor".

Ministers are anxious because the Tories have failed to . gain an improvement in the opinion polls despite the fact that the factors for a recovery grammar school. are all in place, including interest rates at their lowest level for a generation, inflation at its lowest for half a century, and the housing market starting to take off.

Mr Major is frustrated aboutthe failure of the economic "good news" to convince the. electorate. Morale among Tory MPs remains at rock bottom and many admit they expect defeat at the next general election over Labour's campaign message that it is "time for a

The Prime Minister is concerned, that economic good news, traditionally seen as a vote. winner for governments at the wanting for governments at the entropy for the first term, may not says. The key item on the Catinical the forms: High on the agencies, agencia will be a strategy for will be job insecurity, with one dealing with the appeal of the in four of the working popula. Labour leader to wavering fory tion having tasted the employ voters, by insisting Labour has ment since the election in 1992. not dropped Socialism, in spite

Ministers are preparing to target the Labour leadership as part of the fight-back, and semor Tory figures have indicated they are ready for a dirty campaig. They are looking for another embarrassing debacle for abour similar to the

Maisters plan to exploit split in the Labour Party over. Ms Harman. As the Cabinet is meeting, the Parliamentary who was in Japan, while ropean currency.

Shadow Cabinet election from November to July, which could lead to Ms Harman being voted out.

Tony Blair could face the dilemma of appointing Ms Harman to his team, and risk a new rift with Labour MPs who are still angry with her, over the decision to send her son to a



draining with the appeal of the Labour leader to wavering Tory of its repackaging as "new

The head of the Conservative research department, Danny Financistem, who has mapped out the strategy, has taken ministers to task over the way they deal with Mr Blair. When the Labour leader launched his

Labour Party will be debating Michael Heseltine, the Deputy a call to bring forward the Prime Minister, said there was Prime Minister, said there was

a hidden Socialist agenda. Mr Finkelstein will advise the Cabinet to stop claiming Mr Blair is a closet Conservative. Tory leaders will be told to stress the Labour Party is sticking to Socialist policies. Ministers will be urged to counter attempts by Labour to jettison unpopular policies, such as the abolition of GP fundholding and selection in schools. The campaign will run a Labour

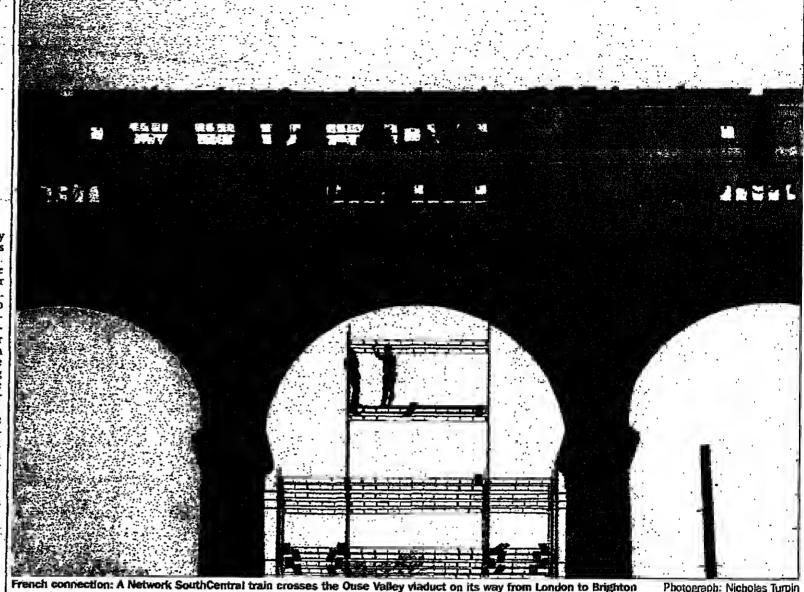
Mr Major will try to raise the Tories' appeal in a speech tomorrow to the Social Market Foundation, outlining his vision for an "opportunity Britain". Mr Blair also plans a speech oo Labour's plans for small husinesses - traditionally seen as Tory supporters.
Some senior ministers believe

the Scott inquiry into the armsto-Iraq affair blew the Government off course. The Tories intend to use the

spring council meeting in Harrogate as the lamich-pad for a wht-back Cabinet ministers wo to speak on the first day include Kenneth Clarke, the Brian Mawhinney, the party chairman. Mr Major will speak not dropped Socialism, in spite on Saturday before thing to Turin for the IGC.

beels against a referendum which his Cabinet colleagues believe may unite the party. Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday used evidence to the Foreign Affairs Commons select committee to "stakeholder economy", he was kill speculation the Governattacked for stealing Conserv- ment could ignore the results of afive policy by Michael Portillo, - a referendum on a single Eu-

Waterloo for BR as French take over



Transport Correspondent

A French company is expected to be given the franchise to run one of Britain's busiest commuter rail networks.

Compagnie Générale des the franchising director, Roger Salmon, il has become the sole preferred hidder for the franchise for Network South Central, which runs the train services from Victoria and London Bridge stations to the south coast between Hastings and Southampton and many short-

er suburban routes. The French conglomerate

already has significant interests in the UK, including the Onyx street cleaning and refuse collection services and several small water companies with a total of 3 million customers.

It narrowly missed out on winning the franchise for South time it has beaten off a combined challenge from Stagecoach, which won the South West franchise, and another bus company, National Express.

National Express is thought to be the favourite to win the franchise for Midland Main Line, the InterCity services out of St Pancras, also due 10 be announced this week. But the third franchise at the final bid. stage, Gatwick Express, is an open contest between the management buy-out team, which bas linked up with British Airways, and Richard Branson's Virgin group.

Virgin had won the franchise were being discounted last night by sources close to Mr Salmon. Both have agreed to pay to operate the line, rather than receive subsidy, as Gatwick Express is the only profitable franchise of the 25 on the net-

Currently, British Rail re-

sidy to run Network South-Central services and the new operator is expected to receive about the same amount initially, but a reduced amount each year over the period of the sev-

On Friday The Independent revealed that the Bermuda based ferry company. Sea Containers, had won the franchise for the East Coast Main Line. South West Trains and Great Western Trains, the first two privatised lines, started operating under their new operators on 4 February and the four new privale operators are expected to take over from BR within the next couple of months.

en-vear franchise.



Water firm 'planned to move 1m people'

PAUL FIELD

It's our

24 how

Yorkshire Water asked local authorities to consider a plan to: evacuate up to a million people from their homes and busiesses as last summer's drought hit water supplies in the region,

an inquiry was told yesterday.

The extent of the crisis was such that lives would have been lost, schools closed and busies plunged into financial crisis if reservoirs had run dry and standpipes and rota cuts been introduced, it was claimed.

The grim picture was painted on the first day of a public inquiry into how Yorkshire Water dealt with the drought. The evacuation plan was ruled out by local authorities and the privatised water company had no top up supplies in a £3m a week tankering operation that ferried in 60 tons of water a day.

IN BRIE

Heroin 'epidemic' Britain is on the verge of a hero-

in epidemic with seizures of the

drug up 80 per cent to a record total last year. Page 6

Rose West appeals

No direct evidence linked Rose

West with the 10 murders she

was convicted of at a trial on

which the media had had "a ma-

high influence," the Court of Ap-

pear heard Page 5

Yorkshire Water, whose managing director Trevor Newton announced his resignation last week, was plagued by claims that a quarter of supplies were

lost through leakage and it was ill equipped to tackle the crisis. The independent inquiry, chaired by Professor John Uff, a barrister and water engineer is expected to last two weeks. The hearing at Leeds Town Hall was told that the Department of the Environment has no plans to submit a report desorte an invitation to do dso. Ofwat, the water regulator, has announced it is carrying out its own inquiry into the crisis.
In its submission presented

yesterday, Bradford Council said the evacuation option was a desperate measure suggested by Yorkshire Water after it ruled out the use of tankers to Bradford Council told the inbring in supplies. That decision

when the sadness left Nelson

al in Johannesburg yesterday. It

was when his estranged wife.

Winnie, first entered the court-

room. He caught sight of her,

and for a moment, smiled, She,

If there were any lingering doubts in the South African

President's mind over his deci-

woman whom he once wor-shipped, they must have faded

away in that moment.

in response, turned away.

Johannesburg.



Cracking up: An arid view of Fewston Reservoir, the feeder

was later reversed. Bradford said last night that the evacuation plan was "ludicrous." Tony Kilner, representing

It was not long after that Mr Mandela told a court packed with journalists, television cam-

tire universe persuaded me to

to get rid of the marriage."
Once the icons of the anti-

apartheid struggle, Nelson and Winnie Mandela are almost

certain to be, finally and offi-

Trengove, argued that the Pres-

repair. He said Mr Mandela re-

jected his estranged wife's as-

sertion that any arbitration

Mr Mandela's lawyer, Wim

cially, divorced.

emergency plans for a drought situation. With the prospect of standpipes it could have been disastrous." The effect of rationing would be devastating. quiry: Yorkshire Water had no

Mandela: Winnie made me the loneliest man

said, simply nothing to salvage.

to bring home that message.

Composed but visibly sorrowful,

Mr Mandela told how his wife

accomplished in two years what

achieve: she made him feel humiliated and lonely. "Ever since I came back from prison, not

once has the defendant ever en-

tered our bedroom while I was

awake," the 77-year-old Presi-

dent told the Rand Supreme

The bedroom is where a

Court in Johannesburg.

years in prison failed to

But it took the man himself

breaking point. Social services shire Water. "There was a slow believe the effects of rota cuts would have been catastrophic." Schools would have been forced to close because teachers would have been unable to

maintain minimum standards of rygiene in the classroom. Dr Chris Worth, director of public health for the West Yorkshire Health Authority, said Yorkshire Water failed to foresee the serious public health implications of a reduction or possible cessation of water supplies. "The bealth and well be-

ing of the population at large of West Yorkshire were under serious threat had the proposed rota cuts gone ahead. Lives could have been lost. The Yorkshire Water Chamber of Commerce told the inquiry its members suffered

he added: "Public services losses in preparing for the worst level.

to discuss with her, but she is the

type of person who fears con-

frontation. I was the loneliest

man during the period I stayed

The President initiated di-

vorce proceedings in 1992, two

vears after his release from

jail. Mr Mandela told the court

that it was her "brazen conduct"

which convinced him to end the

marriage. He then recounted

how in August 1992 he was giv-

by Mrs Mandela which con-

firmed his suspicions of her

man and woman discuss the infidelity with a young lawyer said she bas already taken.

would have been stretched to case scenario and blamed Yorkreaction throughout. They were praying for rain."

John Holroyd, a barrister

representing Yorkshire Water, made it clear that the company would robustly defend its handling of the drought although he admitted there were lessons to be learned. He emphasised its position should be considered against a background of low rainfall and increased demand which led to the rapid depletion of reservoirs.

He claimed the Yorkshire Water has been able to reduce the probability of rota cuts with an £100m programme of new pipelines and pumping stations. Yorkshire Water last night is-

sues a statement denying the claims by Bradford council had ever been discussed at senior

from the African National Con-

gress. He said had tried to

make the parting as painless as

possible for the benefit of their

two daughters, Zindzi and

Zenani, but felt compelled to disclose the affair. I did not

wish us to wash our dirty linen

Mr Mandela will be ques-tioned today by his wife's

lawyer. Mrs Mandela is ex-

peried to take the stand to-

morrow when her counter claim

to assess her husband's estate

is heard; she is seeking at least

half. It may be a small price

compared to what the President

in public," he said.

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There was a fleeting moment eras and the curious: "If the en-

Mandela's face at his divorce tri-reconcile with the defendant I al in Johannesburg yesterday. It would not _ I am determined

sion to end his 38 years with a ident's marriage was beyood

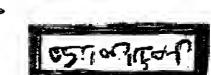
TWO

ARTS 8-11 CHESS 22 CROSSWORD 22 FASHION 12.13 HEALTH 4-7 LISTINGS 20,21 MEDIA 14-16 REVIEWS 11 TELEVISION & RADIO 23,24 WEATHER 21

could bring the two back to- most intimate details. There

gether. There was Mr Treogove were so many things I wanted

with her."





news

Rock's role must remain mystery for time being

CHARLES ARTHUR

A piece of bright blue rock now puzzling mineralogists in the Natural History Museum may mark one of the rarest events on earth - a tourist getting the best of a deal with a Moroccan

When Anna Grayson, a gesized lump of rock at a roadside souvenir stall in Morocco 15 years ago, its seller assured her that it was lapis lazuli - wellknown for its blue colour and exotic associations.

The stallholder sold it to Mrs Grayson for the equivalent of a few pounds, confident that he had passed on a piece of the relatively common mineral to one of the millions of visitors who buoy up Morocco's econ-omy. But Mrs Grayson realised she had found something unusual, though her scientific training could not identify it. Until last year, she had left it at ber home in Watford,

Then, during National Science Week, she look it to the Natural History Museum, which was offering to identify mysterious objects. Experts there soon found that the min-

eral's structure and composition, a mixture of calcium, iron. aluminium, silicon, oxygen and a pinch of sulphur, was not list-ed among the 71,000 officialty registered minerals.

We are still trying to work on the structure of the crystais. said Dr Gordon Cressey, deputy head of the mineralogy department. "We are trying X-ray defraction and scanning elec-tron microscopes, which takes you pretty close to the atomic level. The crystals are very, very small. And it's so blue that when you look at light through it, it's like seeing a miniature stained glass window.

"It must have been known in antique times," said Dr Cressey. "In fact, there must be a cliff face made just of this blue rock somewhere in the Atlas mountains [in southern Morocco]." About 40 new minerals are

discovered every year, but rarely such large amounts. But while Morocco's traders may have lost out in selling it, they could still get the last laugh. To fully document a new mineral. its place of origin must be included. This would almost curtainly require the services of



Secrets of the stone: Anna Grayson with the piece of blue rock that has defied analysis at the Natural History Museum

Aftermath of massacre: Investigation into killer's past raises suspicions over income as first funerals of victims take place

Hamilton 'may have had secret illegal income'

JAMES CUSICK

Thomas Hamilton had been interviewed by his local district council "several times" in the past 18 months over growing concern that he was lying about how he managed to live. Stirling District Council

reamilton 100 per cent housing banefit on the £32 per week rent he should have been aying for his council flat in the council was aware that since November 1993 Hamilton had not registered as being unemployed and was receiving no other benefits. In interviews and correspondence, the council quizzed Hamilton on where he got the money to live. More than one letter asked how he managed to "live on fresh air".

According to a senior council source there had been concern that Hamilton "must have had illegal earnings"

cil said: "We knew what he was telling us just did not add up. He said he was a photographer yet he said he had no income. He showed us a few receipts for his work but they were for only minuscule amounts."

Officials said that as he had grant him full housing benefit. Last year Stirling district learned that Hamilton had received money from photographic equipment he sold worth thousands". However he claimed he had been merely "conversing capital equipment" and he continued to receive his full housing benefit.

Why the council did not investigate his potential illegal carnings will be yet another area that will feature in the inquiry A spokesman for the couninto the Dunblane killings by

> If Hamilton had no income, how did he finance his two hobhies: photography and guns? Just after Christmas last year

Hamilton spent more than £200 on ammunition for his weapons. Gun club fees of more than £50 range fees, and, according to gun experts, "upwards of £20 a month on ammunition"; all cannot be reconciled with a man who has no income.

With local photographic processors having refused to handle Hamilton's work it is understood he was forced to use expensive private developers

MERCURY



Hamilton: Income doubts

in Glasgow and Edinburgh. There is also his recently purchased .357 Magnum hand gun. Even secondhand such a weapon costs several hundred

It is understood from police sources in Glasgow that a police inquiry into Hamilton's hackground will deal with Hamilton's possible role as a provider of pacdophile photographic material. One detective ing in vice, told the Independent Hamilton may have had the potenual for blackmail from photographs.

■ The Government was last night resisting pressure for ear-ly reform of the gun laws in the wake of the Dunhlane massacre - despite growing backbench de-

mands for tighter controls. Downing Street said it would want time to study the findings of the Cullen inquiry before deciding what course of action to

Best friends together forever in life and death

MARY BRAID and JOHN CLARK

They were baptised together, every Sunday they sat in the front row of church together and yesterday best friends Joanna Ross and Emma Crozier,

both 5, were laid to rest together. Hundreds of mourners attended the girls' funerals yesterday morning in a country church, the first for the 16 schoolchiddren and their teacher murdered by gunman Thomas Hamilton.

As with so many religious services held in the last six days, the congregation proved too large for the kirk. About 500 people stood outside the 19th century Lecropt Church, where the girls' families worshipped while attended The sermon was relayed by speakers. The hymns they sang were children's hymns: "All Things Bright and Beautiful". "Jesus Loves Me" and the girls' Sunday school favourite "Give me Joy in My Heart".

Joanna's grandfather, Jimmy Ross, is an elder at Lecropt as is Emma's father, John. The girls were known as little characters and favourites with the Lecropt's Presbyterian congreiones, speaking on behalf of

William Gilmour told the gathering that while the girls had been best friends they had very

different personalities. Emma was "quiet and bid-dable", Joanna, "more headstrong". The families had encouraged their friendship, sure that something of each would rub off on the other. The two girls are seen standing side by side in their class photograph.

Mr Jones offered a few anecdotes from their lives. There was the time Joanna cut Emma's hair and a professional had to he called in to right a rather botched job. The stories raised some smiles and even some laughter on a day that was otherwise stamped with sorrow.

Mr Gilmour said: "To their was precious, loved dearly and cared for tenderly at home. We can appreciate their high hopes for the future womanhood of Emma and Joanna." It was tragic that neither girl was allowed to fulfilled parental aspirations, he added.

Later yesterday the funeral of blonde and pretty" Abigail McLennan: five, was held at St Blane's church in Dunhlane High Street. Flowers lined the gation. Joanna's uncle, Gareth pavement outside the old

both families, and the Rev cathedral where the Queen and Princess Royal started their visit on Sunday.

As the tiny white coffin was taken from the church at the end of the service dozens; of townspeople stood watching, eyes downcast and in silence. And as mourners left, others

were already arriving for the fu-neral of Kevin Hasell, five, also held at St Blane's. Kevin was described as a "bunch of mischief". The funerals continue today with services for six more chil-

dren. There will be four to-

morrow and three, including teacher Gwenne Mayor, on Thursday. By yesterday morning, most journalists had left Dunblane

and those remaining were set to follow. There have been wideto be left alone to grieve. Two boys wounded in the at-tack, Ben Vallance and Robert

Purves, were yesterday allowed home from hospital. A spokesman for Stirling Royal Infirmary said: "They will require further hospital treatment. The other three children and two female teachers who are patients in our care, are continuing to make good progress.". ■ This article was based on a

pooled report by the Press Asso-

Boy, 14, arrested after gun thefts

A teenage runaway was arrested yesterday in connection with the theft from a pensioner of two rifles and two handguns.

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e player mine

The boy, 14, was being ques-tioned by police last night after a massive manhunt. He was detained, along with a 16-year-old, at a bouse in High Wycombe.

Buckinghamshire.

The four weapons - two .22 calibre rifles and two .22 calibre handguns - had been stolen from Peter Presson, 67, last friday. They were part of a collection kept in a secure box at Mr Preston's house close to the boy's home at Chalfont St Peter. Police pay damages

An Irish man was paid £7.500 damages and costs by the Met-ropolitan Police after he claimed two officers beat him up and one racially abused him. Paul Moran, 32, alleges that he was walking away from his home in west London at about midnight in December 1992 when a police vehicle stopped and PC Kenh Lloyd and PC Ian Whitely got out and seized him.

Brothers' ban lifted

Coventry City Council abandoned its High Court legal action against John Finnie, 30, and his brother David, 27, who were to banned in February last vea from entering part of the Stoke Heath housing estate after alle gations that they were connected ed with crime and were bringing lear to the neighbourhood.

Taxi death

A taxi driver appeared before Hertford magistrates charged with causing death by danger-ous driving after Carol Watkin-son, 23, died last Friday after being trapped in his cab for more than 35 minutes in the River Stort in Sawbridgeworth. manded on bail until 13 May.

Homes blight review

Government officials are to investigate blight suffered by homeowners living along the planned route of the Channel Tunnel Rail Link and other major projects. A working group will review the scope, cause and cffects of blight and whether any changes can be made to arrangements for property purchase and compensation.

Beach huts taxed

Owners of beach huts at Mudeford Sands, Christchurch, Dorset, are legally obliged to pay council tax a High Court judge ruled. He said a local valuation. tribunal was wrong in law when it decided 340 huts were exempt from the tax. The decision could affect thousands of holidaymakers around the country.

Benefit soars

The amount of benefit paid to people in work has more than doubled over the past five years, figures publicised by a Labour MP show. The increase - from just over £1hn a year in 1990 to more than £2.3bn last year - is the result of employers taking advantage of the welfare system to hire employees at rock buttom wages, Denis MacShane, the MP for Rotherham, said.

Vet loses appeal

Ryan James, the vet jailed for life at Stafford Crown Court last May for poisoning his wife, has lost his appeal against conviction. James, 41, a partner in a practice at Burton upon Trent; Staffordshire, was alleged to have killed Sandra, 39, by lacing her orange juice with Immobilion, a drug used to immobilise horses, so be could collect her £180,000 life insurance and start a new life with his mistress, Catherine Crooks. James married Mrs Crooks at Gartree top security jail, Leices tershire, last September.

Rumbles in heaven When British Airways upgrad-

ed its first-class service to provide pyjamas, duck-down divets and fully reclining beds, it wanted to make its passengers feel at home. But it was a little too. effective. Now the airline is having to employ the tactics of the England Rugby team to stop its passengers snoring. The Will Carling and his team to aid breathing have been adopted by BA to stop passengers in its business and first class sears keeping each other awake.

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dia Services Ltd to 43 Milhor or telephone 0171-536 8288. Carolit cards welco

Support grows for fitting new TV sets with 'V-chip' MARIANNE MACDONALD Parliament followed his lead by vertisers. However, the danger

Media Correspondent

The Government has pledged to consult the broadcasting industry on introducing a V-chip to allow censorship of programmes - although it may be almost impossible to introduce on a national level Short for "violence chip", it

can be fitted inside television sets to pick up signals built into every programme. If the code shows a level of sex or violence over a pre-set maximum, the set switches channels. Pressure is growing for censorship after President Clinton agreed last month to installation of V-chips in all new sets sold in the US. Last month the European

voting for V-chips to be installed in all new sets sold in Europe. although this measure may not reach the statute book.

But the concern to maintain broadcasting standards is close to the heart of Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, who yesterday acknowledged fears about the effect of television violence on children. "It may be that the V-chip of-

fers help and we are looking to see if it will work in practice," she said. "If a V-chip helps parents exercise their responsibility, then all to the good." .

The Heritage Department has had talks on the subject with regulators, and will also consult broadcasters, viewers and ad-

of a unilateral measure is that it could fall fool of European single-market restrictions. It would also be difficult, because foreign programmes available on cable or satellite would not

Another problem would be that such a measure could prevent the sale of many foreignmanufactured television sets. -: span of television sets, it would

contain a V-chip signal.

Given the 15-20-year life also be a long time before it took effect.

Nevertheless, David Alton, the Liberal Democrat MP for Mossley Hill, has threatened to put down an amendment to the

chip has received guarded sup-port from much of the industry, except for advertisers, and the debate on the issue is welcomed by Labour. Lady Howe, chairman of the Broadcasting Standards Coun-cil, said: "If it can be done and

The introduction of the V-

the cost is not prohibitive, then it is a good idea, but it won't solve all problems." But James Ferman, director of the British Board of Film Classification said: "Remember that it's only new sets that will have this chip in and the old sets tend to go into kids' bedrooms. I fear the children most in need of Broadcasting Bill to make V- protection are the ones least chips compulsory if Mrs Bot- likely to get it.".

Hands across the water industry Anglo-French business partnerships are In the construction industry,

The most noticeable business links between Britain and try, where Compagnie Generale des Eaux owns a number of small tocal water companies. lis compatriot. Lyonnaise des Eaux, another big construction and public works company that grewout of the water industry, last year bought Northumbnan Water, one of the larger stock market-quoted

firms in the industry.

Generale des Eaux has also expanded into waste management, through a UK subsidiary called Onyx, and into private health care and energy manwell established, writes Peter Rodgers

But Anglo-French business links are noticeable more by their rarity than by their promineoce in the economy.

One successful Anglo-French

partnership is in the drinks industry, where LVMH, the French drinks group that owns Moet Hennessy controls 20 per cent of Guinness. In return Guinness owns 30 per cent of the Moet Hennessy offshoot of

is typical of the relationship between French and British aircraft

industry, where partnerships rather than aggressive takeovers have been the norm. There is no Anglo-French equivalent of the giant Anglo-Dutch com-

bioes Shell and Unilever. Among the bettter known partnerships are GEC-Alsthorn, a jointly owned company in the power geoeration business, Airbus Industrie, the aviation consortium in which British Aerospace has a stake, and This cross-shareholding deal ATR, an Anglo-Italian-French constructor of small commercial

being built by a joint venture between John Laine and GTM-Entrepose, a French construction company
Meanwhile, the Anglo French channel tunnel company, Eurotunnel, used another

the second Severn crossing is

Anglo French group, Transmanche Link to build the project. A few years ago the French

funeral firm Pompes Funebres Generales moved aggressively into the UK. But the tables were turned when the business was taken over by SCI of Texas, the

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Privatised benefits offices in shambles

CHRIS BLACKHURST Westminster Correspondent

A privatisation contract to run part of the Benefits Agency has resulted in a shambles, with performance targets not being met and officials expressing doubts n is yielding any savings at all. according to a management consultants' report prepared

for the Agency.
So bad have things become, says the report, a copy of which has been passed to the Independent, that "relationships between all parties are strained. There is a lack of goodwill and a lack of trust".

The report from In Depth Consulting focuses on the three-year contract to BET the giant office services group—currently the subject of a £1.9bn takeover hid from Rentokil - to run the hack offices of the Benefits Agency in Lancashire and Cumbria. BET's brief was to handle

typing, open the mail, run the messenger service, ensure stationery supplies were up to demand and operate security for the Agency's branches across the region, starting in January last year. The result, concludes the report, was a disaster. In Blackpool, the report says, the company did not provide ade-quate security cover. A securiintervene to prevent anti-social behaviour by [Agency] customers," writes In Depth. adding that overall security "is an area of concern". -

last September, BET failed to claimants. This was caused by be done."

"under-resourcing on the part of the contractor" and, the re-port acknowledges, the mail-bag being greater than expected. Another disaster area was typing Again, writes In Depth,
"BET under-resourcing appears to be a key factor. Typists are frequently taken to cover switchboard and post-opening

duties ..."

If problems arise BET staff were reluctant to raise the issues with management "as they fear that this will rebound on them and be taken as an indication of their own inefficiency". What In Depth describes as "anecdotal information" suggests "BET quality assurance amounts to disciplinary action against the individual if a problem is raised". In one of the most telling phrases, BET's staff, says the report, "have feelings of frustration with BET equal to those of the customers".

To get around the shortcomings, Agency staff are ordering stationery direct, doing their own typing, and opening mail themselves. This is likely to defeat the object of contracting out and cast doubt over the value of the privatisation.

John Hutton, MP for Barrow and Furness, who obtained the In Depth report, said it revealed "the triumph of political dogma over common sense". It was obty guard "persistently failed to vious, he said, that the promised savings to the taxpayer from allowing BET to run the services was "just not materialising".

A BET spokesman said the report related to "start-up Benefits Agency staff were difficulties". Staff numbers, he also left without stationery and, said, had since been increased. "Inevitably," he added, "when meet 43 per cent of the targets. a new supplier comes on site set for opening post from there is a lot of learning to

Rock of ages: More shock 'n roll in store as Seventies anti-heroes make comeback



The boys are back: From left, Sex Pistols Paul Cook, John Lydon, Steve Jones and Glen Matlock celebrate yesterday

Pistols at dawn of a new era

It was the usual thing. Loudspeakers played a medley of patriotic numbers from the Second World War, while six-foot transvestite waitresses passed around bacon-burgers, served from metal film camsters, Much what you would expect from a press showing in the red-walled basement of the 100 Club in London's Oxford Street.

About three hundred of us were crushed into this airless hole - with any distinction hetween passive and active smoking purely academic - to herald the relaunch of the Sex Pistols. Earnest foreigners, holders of degrees and diplomas in the semiology of British rock, rubbed shoulders and everything else with celebrity jour-nalists, photographers and elderly hangers-on from the demi-monde of popular music.

The Bill Grundy interview of 1 December 1976 (a date that will live in infamy) was being reshown. Only five years of the Osmonds and David Cassidy could possibly have gulled seventies Britain into believing the Pistols were obscene and a the Pistols were obscene and a threat to society. The fresh-faced Lydon et al, clearly embarrassed, were manipulated into saying "shit" on screen. The credits told us the producer had been a Tony Bulley.

Downwind, behind a wall of expensive affershave leather.



jackets and bouffant hairpieces, came the first approaching sounds of the boys themselves. "Wherr", it went. And "whoa, wigh, whorr". The crowd parted and a small group of nice-looking chaps in early middle age, clutching beer bottles, made their way to a low dais.

So there they were, the an-archists and the anti-christs: John Lydon aka Johnny Rotten, Paul Cook, Glen Matlock and Steve Jones - together again. Lydon, as ever the sharpest, his hair shaped into a "McLaren". attempting to escape upwards from his head, retains the prehensile upper lip and rodentine teeth of his youth. His slightly bulkier frame was squeezed into a sleeveless red hunting jerkin, decorated with horizontal leather tabs beneath which he wore a flowing white chemise. The ensemble could have been borrowed from

Cliff's Wathering Heights. Downwind, behind a wall of expensive aftershave, leather acerbity, his mates were gen-



Anarchy reigns: The Pistols sign a record deal outside Buckingham Palace in 1977 with

uinely avuncular. Uncles Paul and Steve, with their craggy schoolboy looks, are deadringers for Robson and Jerome. Uncle Glen reminds one of Joe Bugner. The threat was po-tent - if you upset them, they might tickle you.

It was question time. Listings agents wanted to know would

dam? They would, except for Holland which could "eff off". A French journalist asked if anarchy was returning to the UK? She was (rightly) ignored. What about Sid Vicious (deceased 1979), asked another. "His ashes were scattered at Heathrow, so we'd need a Hoover." replied Lydon. Why do it all over again? Since we split up no-one has

world."A bit harsh on Tony Blair, I thought. "Sting, will you be playing Roxanne," called

out one wag.
Finally, what about his loyal fans? Did he have a message? He did. "I want you all to come to Finsbury Park. I hope it rains and your wheelchairs get stuck in the mud". I would, Johnny, but I've promised to done bollocks all to change the take the kids to a puppet show.

Parents seen as key to fighting illiteracy

ממטל אחומטל Education Editor

The way to end illiteracy among children is to end it among parents, says government-funded research published yesterday. The study shows that family

literacy programmes where parents, grandparents and chil-dren work together are extremely successful in improving reading and writing.

Researchers from the National Foundation for Educa-

tional Research looked at four literacy programmes for parents at the bonom of the educational heap and their children, aged three to six. Most of the children had low scores in language and risked educational failure.

The 361 parents and 392 children attended courses of eight hours a week for 12 weeks. The study found the proportion of children who would have struggled with reading at school fell from two-thirds to just over a third. The proportion of children with the most severe reading difficulties fell from 24 per cent to 9 per cent. There were similar improvements in children's vocahulary.

Parents' average reading score went up by 5 per cent and their writing score by 10 per cent. The study found that all the progress children and par-ents made was still being maintained nine months later. Many parents went on to further studies and felt more confident about helping their children at

Greg Brooks, who led the research team, said of the programmes set up by the Basic Skills Agency: "This is one of the most effective initiatives we have ever encountered."

The pilot projects cost £3m paid by the Welsh Office and the Department for Education and Employment.

Gillian Shephard, Secretary of State for Education and Employment, would not commit the Government to more funding but she told a London con-ference: "We have to look at something that is as successful as this very seriously. If this is the way to break the cycle of de-privation and other problems it has to be taken very seriously."

Mrs Shephard responded —

vigorously to reports that plans have run into trouble because not enough private providers are interested in the scheme. which starts in four local authorities in autumn. She said 600 private and voluntary groups had come forward, 387 of them in Norfolk and the rest in the three pilot authorities. Twenty two extra local authority nursery units are being set up in Norfolk.

Hunt escapes action over playground kill

in a school playground.

30-44-51 4**03**%

school in the Yorkshire Dales sure it doesn't happen again."
last week. The hounds jumped A spokesman for North
a wall into the playground to Yorkshire police said the hunt a wall into the playground to

catch their quarry.

Police are taking no further had left some of her 44 pupils action against a fox hunt which "shaken" and "frightened".
allowed its hounds to kill a fox Eddie Braithwaite, chairman of the Lunesdale hunt, said the

Children aged between five hounds became separated dur-and ten watched the fox being ing a chase and deeply regret-torn apart through a classroom ted playground killing. We are window at Langeliffe primary holding a special meeting to en-

had apologised to the school. The headleacher Hilary Fos "They don't make a habit of this ter said she was "horrified and so that is the end of the matter appalled" by the incident which as far as we are concerned."

Syd Vicious pictured centre and former manager Malcom McLaren with hands in pocket

iming soon

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ext Saturday, and every Saturday, you feature giving profiles of the stars and director can walk into your local newsagent and and notes on the film. We will announce some of the films to be featured on Thursday on the film pages of The Independent.

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Harvey Nicks set for biggest sale ever - on Stock Exchange



Flagship: Harvey Nichols in Knightsbridge, nicknamed 'Harvey Nicks' by loyal custo

The smartly dressed "ladies who lunch" who shop at Harvey Nichols will soon be able to buy shares in the Knightsbridge store in London after the company announced plans to float on the stock market vesterday.

The flagship fashion emporium, which was acquired by a Hong Kong group five years ago, is set to raise up to £80m to fund ambitious expansion plans. These include opening regional branches in locations such as Manchester. Glasgow and Edinburgh in addition to the Leeds branch which is set to open this autumn. International expansion is also expected with branches in New York, Paris and Tokyo.

The expansion into the provinces follows similar moves recently announced by Selfridges, a rival department store. A Manchester Selfridges is set to open in 1998 in addition to smaller outlets in airports.

Harvey Nichols, affectionately known as "Harvey Nicks" to its well-heeled clientele, also plans to expand its restaurant interests following the success-ful opening of a chic bar and brasserie on the fifth floor of the

A local favourite prepares to leap into the world market, writes Nigel Cope

Knightsbridge shop. It is due to open a restaurant on the top floor of the Oxo tower near London's Festival Hall this summer. With glass walls and spectacular views over London, the restaurant is tipped as the capital's next trendy gas-

trodome following in the foot-steps of Quaglino's and Mezzo. However, Clive Vaughan of retail consultants Verdict Research said: "I don't think they are raising this money to open restaurants and there aren't many locations in Britain that could support a branch of Harvev Nicks. My guess is that they will expand the Harvey

Nichols brand internationally. The store has performed well since it was acquired in 1991 by Hong Kong retail magnate Dickson Poon for £60m. When he bought Harvey Nichols from the Burton group it was losing £150,000 on sales of £54m. Since then the store has closed some departments, such as carpeting, and concentrated on shion concessions, specialis-

ing in top designer names such as Ralph Lauren, Donna Karan and Giorgio Armani.

The store has a string of celebrity shoppers, including the Princess of Wales, Actresss Joanna Lumley and Jonnifer Saunders have also used the store for shopping binges in episodes of the television comedy Absolutely Fabulous.

Harvey Nichols was founded in 1813 but did not move to its present location at the Knightsbridge end of Sloane Street until the 1880s. It was acquired by Debenhams in 1919 then became part of the fast-expanding Burton Group, when Sir Ralph Halpern's company bought Debenhams in 1985, and it passed to Dickson Poon five

years later. Mr Poon, who was educated it Uppingham, started out with a HK\$5m (£424.000) loan from his father. He has since snapped up the rights to up-market Western brands such as Hermes and Charles Jourdan. His company Dickson Concepts also in-

cludes ST Dupont, the French lighter and pens company. Mr Poon added to his high profile a few years ago, and raised some cycbrows, when he hired six topless dancers to entertain guests at his company's 10th anniver-

Under the terms of the flotation, Mr Poon is selling just under half his stake in Harvey Nichols. The company has not yet set a date for its stock market listing but the float should value the company at around £160m. Its proximity to Harrods meant that Harvey Nichols has often been overshadowed by its more famous competitor, but the store has nevertheless developed a loyal following, among its creditcard wielding power-dressed clientele, for its high-quality goods and personal service.

Harvey Nichols is not the only department store to have enjoyed mixed fortunes in recent years. While the John Lewis Partnership and Selfridges have powered ahead others such as House of Fraser have struggled as the battle at the top end of the retail market becomes increasingly competitive.

'Dearth of evidence' at Rose West trial

WILL BENNETT

There was no direct evidence to link Rosemary West with the 10 murders she had been con-victed of, the Court of Appeal was told yesterday. Her coun-sel also accused the media of having "a malign influence" on her trial in November.

She had suffered both from the decision of the trial judge, Mr instice Mantell, to activit key evidence regarded by the defence as inadmissible and from his failure to put her side of the case adequately when he summed up, said Richard

West, 42, is seeking leave to appeal against her conviction on 10 charges of murder by a jury at Winchester Crown: Court But Lord Taylor, the Lord Chief Justice, and two other judges,, are effectively hearing ber



sensational and prejudicial appeal case in full.
The widow of the self-confessed serial killer, Frederick West, who was found hanged in his prison cell, denies any part in the murders of 10 girls and young women. Their remains

Street, Gloucester, the couple's house, and at their previous home in the city.
West is in jail at Durham and is not attending the hearing in

were found at 25 Cromwell

Mr Ferguson told the court vesterday: "Other than the sheer horror of the discovery of the remains of the victims, the most striking feature of this case, say the defence, was the dearth of evidence to connect

the applicant to these crimes." He said the evidence linking Rosemary West to the deaths of Charmaine West, her husband's

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step-daughter, and Shirley Robinson, a lodger at 25 Cronwell Street, was "tenu-

Evidence connecting her to the seven victims of sex killings found at Cromwell Street, "was virtually non-existent unless the evidence advanced under the banner of similar fact evidence was properly admissible".

Similar fact evidence was given by women who survived sexual assaults in which Rose-mary West took part with her husband. The prosecution argued this showed that she was also involved in the attacks on the victims who died, but the defence said it was inadmissible. Mr Ferguson said yesterday

it was not known how the victims died because such a long time had elapsed since their deaths: Rosemary West had never admitted being involved, and there was evidence that Frederick West had carried out two murders and other attacks on his own.
The remains of Ann McFall,

wbo disappeared before Frederick West met Rosemary, were found dismembered and bound with cord. Mr Ferguson said this showed that Rosemary West had not been involved in killing the seven Cromwell Street victims discovered in similar circumstances.

He said the possibility that Frederick West was solely re-sponsible for the murders is the hook upon which the defence hang their objection to the similar fact evidence." Mr Ferguson continued:

"The media both before and during the hearing of the case, exercised a malign influence on the proceedings such as to deprive the applicant of a fair He produced newspaper cuttings which he said were "sen-

sational and prejudicial" and added that every major witness had a contract with the media which led to the danger of evidence being exaggerated or rehearsed with journalists. Mr Ferguson said that another reason for the appeal was the defence's belief that the

charges relating to Heather West, Charmaine West and Shirley Robinson should have been dealt with separately. He also criticised the summing-up of Mr Justice Mantell

for not giving adequate direc-tions to the jury on how to apply similar fact evidence and failing to put the defence case Rosemary West to the deaths of fully.

Heather West, her daughter, fully.

The hearing continues today.

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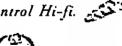
MORE GOODIES INSIDE THAN A PATISSERIE VAN.

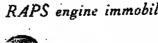














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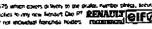


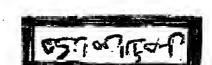














Record heroin haul as gangs try to flood UK

JASON BENNETTO Crime Correspondent

Britain is on the verge of a heroin epidemic with seizures of the drug up 80 per cent to a record

Investigators believe drug traffickers are trying to flood the United Kingdom with heroin in an attempt to create a bigger more profitable market.

Customs officers and the police also announced vesterday that in 1995 they recovered the biggest ever quantity of drugs in tonnes of drugs were seized - and reports from those close to

cent on 1994. There has also been a resurnce in the popularity of the dance drug cestasy. In 1995, the amount seized rose by about 17 per cent to the equivalent of 2 million tablets, worth about £30m at street prices. But it is the huge increase in

seizures of heroin - 1,118 kilo-grams, or enough for 658 mdlion injections - that is causing the greatest single concern. Dick Kellaway, Customs & Excise chief investigator. warned: "All the evidence - Cusa single year. A record 55.6 toms seizures, police seizures

increase in the volume of heroin being targeted on the UK. We believe that the increase is supplier-led in the sense that heroin is being imported in order to create a market. Potentially this is the most serious drug problem that all of us face."

Heroin in now the most common class A drug, Most of it comes from opium grown Turkey, Pakisian, and Afghanistan and arrives via countries such as the Netherlands. Germany, the Czech Republic, Slovakia. Bulgaria and Hungary. Most of the trafficking gangs in the UK are Turkish. Asian

and Afghan. About 21 Turkish gangs are running the bulk of the multi-million pound heroin trade with their main stronghold in north London. The drug is usually sold on to white drug gangs and dealers for dis-

tribution in the big cities. A wrap of heroin costs be-tween £10 and £15, and police believe an increasing number of young people are choosing it as their first choice drug. The trend was highlighted in the cur-rent hit film *Trainspotting*.

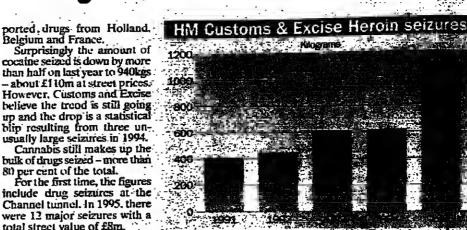
While seizures of eestasy rose to 544kg, those for amphetamine dropped from about a quarter to 527kg and for LSD by more than a half to 31.000 Customs say there is no sign of the overall upward trend doses. The rise in costasy is partabating. Police have also warned of a drug-gang culture ly blamed on the growth of im-

ported drugs from Holland. Belgium and France.

Surprisingly the amount of cocaine seized is down by more than half on last year to 940kgs. - about £110m at street prices.

However, Customs and Excise believe the treod is still going up and the drop is a statistical blip resulting from three un-usually large seizmes in 1994. Cannabis still makes up the

8t) per cent of the total. For the first time, the figures include drug seizures at the Channel tunnel. In 1995, there were 12 major seizures with a total street value of £8m.



'Vet's 100 dogs lived in filth as wild pack'

A vet kept 100 dogs in such appalling conditions at her home that some had no eyes and others had stumps for legs. a court was told yesterday.

Three inches of filth was caked on to the floors at Helen Hein's cottage near Guildford. Surrey, and in-breeding among the dogs had led to hideous deformities, it was claimed. Dr Hein, 69, is charged by the RSPCA with causing unnecessary suffering to the dogs.

Farnham magistrates were told at the start of a five-day trial that Dr Hein bred German shepherds in filthy conditions. Many ran wild and formed packs. They were diseased and deformed. The yet, who denies a total of 19 charges of causing unnecessary suffering to the



in 'appalling conditions'

veterinary surgeon employed by the Ministry of Agriculture. She illegally bred dogs for

sale at her secluded contage at Newlands Corner hecause she was not a licensed breeder. The charges were brought after RSPCA inspectors visited her home more than half a

dozen times in October and November 1994 and March 1995. Alan Kurtz, for the prosecution, warned magistrates that the evidence they would hear would be very distressing. Inspectors found dogs with missing eyes, sores and cuts and one animal hobbling around with a stump for a back leg. The court

was told how every room in the house was covered in excrement

and filth and was over-run by dogs which had gone wild.

He said: "Her belief that the dogs should neither be castrated or spayed led to an ever increasing population of these animals. At the time, they were living in deplorable conditions. wholly unsuitable, insunitary, squalid, deep in excrement and urine and other residue.

The fact that the defendant is a qualified vet only makes the matter worse because it's clear she ought to have known better. I have little doubt she is extremely fond of them. perhaps even obsessed by them. The dogs have become part of

Dr Hein listened intently as the allegations were read out. Mr Kurtz said the dogs had split into packs like wild animals and one pack had taken control of the staircase as their territory. He said that on one visit by the RSPCA it seemed as if one of the sickest dogs had been hidden in a caravan lavatory. "It was in a space 2ft square without ventilation or water. Zinta [the dog] had a large pressure sore at the end of a stump of a leg." Mr Kurtz said.

The court was told how one of the dogs called Cuddly could not use its back legs and had to drag itself around the room.

RSPCA inspector Alison MacVicar described how on several visits she had been stunged at the condition of the animals. "The whole situation covered in mud and faeces and several newborn litters were on the premises.

visited on 2 March, 1995. to make a full inventory. In a back bedroom, I was absolutely appalled. There were three inches of solid facces on the floor which if you walked on it did not leave a footprint.

"There was no water and the only food I saw was scattered on the facces. In the kitchen there were between 10 and 15 dogs including puppies. Three dogs were of particular concern, one puppy had a hite wound to its face. This was a fresh bite. It had lost its left eye." Miss MacVicar said she also inspected several outdoor kennels and found

Supermodels show the timeless grace of a legendary name

similar to the United States de-veloping unless action is taken.

stable of West Yorkshire and Chairman of the Association of

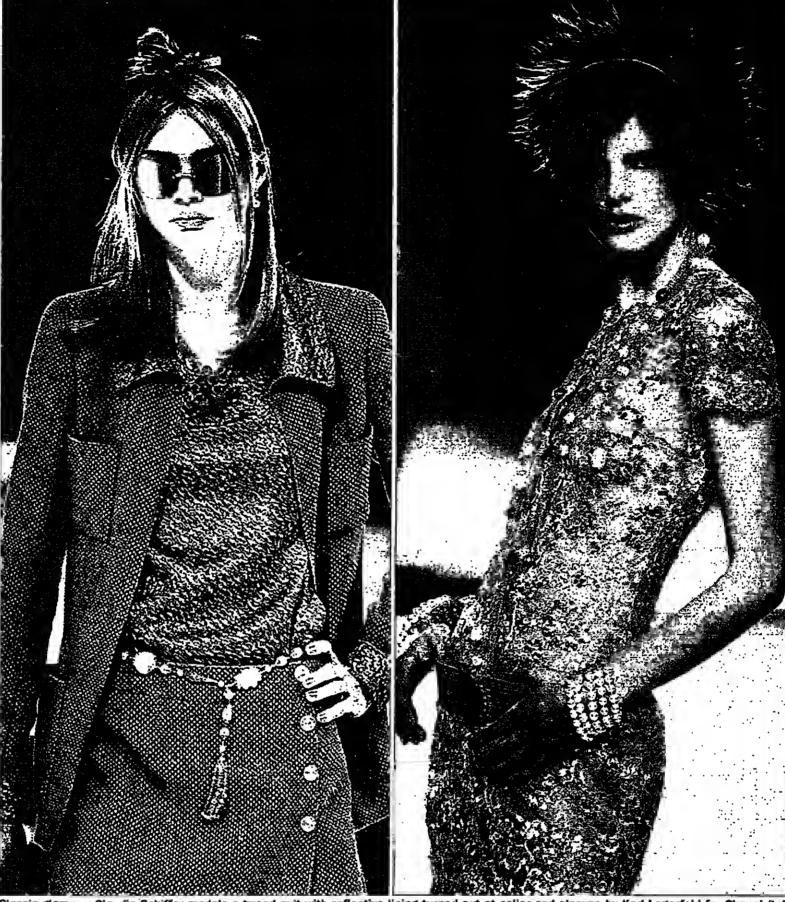
Chief Police Officers' drugs

sub-committee, also highlight-

ed the growing threat to the voung. He said the death of 18-year-old cestasy victim Leah Beits had brought home the ex-

tent of the problem.

Keith Hellawell. Chief Con-



Classic glamour: Claudia Schiffer models a tweed suit with reflective lining turned out at collar and sleeves by Karl Lagerfeld for Chanel (left

Woman golf champion 'treated McFlights take burgers differently' over club punch-up

A women's golf champion, sacked after punching a fellow then flicked his hand towards what happened... Obviously, floor," Miss Harris said. club member off his bar stool, yesterday claimed she would have been treated differently if she were a man. Philomena Vaughan, 42, denied exaggerating the incident, which later earned her the nicknames "Mo-

hammed Ali" and "Rocky". Cross-examined at a resumed industrial tribunal, Mrs Vaughan, three times club champion, insisted that during a trophy presentation night at the Dewstow golf club, Gwent, husinessman John Price, 49. slid his hand under her waist-coat and rubbed his hand up

her face. "I put my hand up to fend him off and then hit him on the side of his face."

At an earlier hearing, the Cardiff tribunal was told Mrs Vaughan was first suspended and then sacked two months later as manager of the golf shop for gross misconduct following a row with the club's owner and chairman, Elwyn Harris, over his handling of the issue.

Mrs Vaughan of Rogiet. Gwent, claims unfair dismissal and also sex discrimination hecause Mr Price was not treated in the same way after the incid down her thigh.

When she told him to stop.

When she told him to stop.

they didn't believe me at the

Former club harmaid Sonya Harris (no relation to Mr Harris), 24, described hearing Mr Price point out to Mrs Vaughan that she had something on her dress. "I then saw Mr Price lean forward and put his hand on her left thigh. Mrs Vaughan said something like 'Don't touch me' then I remember Mr Price waved his hand in front of her as if he was dismissing her

Mrs Vaughan had reacted by twice poking him in the shoul-der area. "To me it looked like he lost his balance and went

Questioned by Philip Mar-shall, for the club, Mrs Vaughan deoied she had had a lot to drink at the evening. "Every-thing happened as I said," she added. She strongly denied al-legations that she called the club committee "sods".

Mrs Vaughan, whose case is backed by the Equal Opportu-nities Commission, has told the tribunal how she refused to sign a letter from Mr Price agreeing that there had been no assault. In his evidence Mr Price, of Caldicot. Gwent. denied ever raising his hand to Mrs Vaughan or touching her. The case continues.

on to a different plane

ROS WYNNE-JONES

This is your captain speaking on the McPlane flight from Zurich to Palma. Big Macs and milkshakes will now be served." Not content with providing

burger bars across the world's holiday destinations, McDonald's will shortly take to the sky in a big red aeroplane.
The aircraft, dubbed Me-

Plane in Britaio and the Flying Ketchup in Switzerland, where the idea was conceived, makes its maiden voyage on I April. But the hright red 161-seat aircraft, with McDonald's emblafast food giant to make "flights fun for families" and to trailblaze the company's name

across the heavens. The joint venture between McDooald's Switzerland, charter company Crossair and Hotelplan, the Swiss tour operators, will feature a McDonnell Douglas MD-81 aircraft customised to create an "ambience close to that of a Mc-Donald's restaurant", but with red leather scats for comfort.

out of the question at the Flying McDonald's. The company is anxious to avoid a chip-pan zoned across the fuselage and fire at 30,000ft and counter a trademark yellow "M" on the service will be replaced by co tail, is an earnest attempt by the ventional meals on a plate. service will be replaced by con-

Crossair, a subsidiary of Switzerland's national airline. Swissair, usually specialises in upmarket charter flights for husiness clients, with flight attendants serving champagne rather than Chicken Mc-Nuggets. A spokeswoman said:
"It is moving downmarket for us, in a way, but we were glad

to be doing something different, with families in mind. Children get very bored and we would be offering them souvenirs, a certificate and toys, as well as a McDonald's-style

Children will be able to visit the cockpit, under supervision, with a range of holiday souvenirs on sale to complete the outing.

Naval officer stole to fund betting

A high-flying officer who fiddled £21,000 from Royal Navy coffers to help fund his gambling addiction was jailed for four months by a court martial yesterday. Graham Woodworth, 38; a per confidence

officer

former navy commander, was also dismissed from the service after he falsely claimed for boarding school allowances for his three children.

The court at HMS Nelson.
Portsmouth, was told that the

officer, who served on the air-craft carrier HMS. Ark Royal and at the Ministry of Defence In-stitute in London, became addicted to betting on horses during a student summer in a bookmaker's. . Lt Cdr John Flanaghan, for

the prosecution, said that Woodworth, from Portsmouth, had misapplied £12,462 in boarding school allowances paid to him to help fund the education of his children, Smart, Dale and An-

Li Cdr Flanaghan said Wood-worth had also stolen £2,655.12 paid as a lodging allowance. He was supposed to be living at a house in Muswell Hill, north London, while working at the Institute of Naval Oceanogra-phy and Meteorology, but was instead commuting from his Portsmouth home.

Investigators were alerted when Woodworth failed to show up for work one day. They Hill but found Woodworth had not lived there for some time, and wheo they interviewed him about the matter they found discrepancies with his allowances.

Woodworth also falsified receipts from boarding schools in Ardingly, Sussex and Bemridge, Isle of Wight, where his three children were being educated, to claim advance payment of school fees totalling £5,970.

Woodworth pleaded guilty to one charge of theft, four charges brought under the Naval Discipline Act of misapplying school allowances, two charges of false remittance advice for the two schools and an eighth count of allowing a lodger to stay in his Portsmouth naval married quarters without official permission.

For the defence, Mr Bradley Albuery said Woodworth's gam-hling problems stemmed from his family, who were left homeless 35 years ago because of his father's betting addiction. "It was like a drug addiction,

and looking back over the last five or six years he is now aware how serious a problem he had. He started as a social gambler and it became a compulsion," said Mr Albuery. Although his client was at-

tending Gamblers Anonymous, Mr Albuery said of the problem: "It is like a drink problem – he fears could come back to haunt him and he accepts he still has a prohlem."..

Mr Albuery said Woodworth was described by colleagues and fellow officers as a "highflier who had the naval world at his feet". But he had allowed his career to be blighted by his gam-bling addiction. President of the court martial.

Captain Simon Goodall, told him: "There's no disguising the fact that you are the architect of your own downfall. You have woven a web of deceit which has entangled your entire family and

other unsuspecting people.

The root cause has been your addiction to gambling but this does not alter the stark fact that you have been dishonest. The service relies on honesty and trust and you have abused that trust."

Woodworth was also ordered to have his pay stopped until he had repaid £2,655 and to suffer increasingly difficult to distinguish who is being called as you add more," said a BT spokesman yesterday. "It's easiest with two, and then it gets progressively more complex."

BT only converted its national network from older, analogue systems in the middle of last problem is that the year.

the financial penalties from his dismissal. They include his £43,000-a-year salary, his married quarters in Portsmouth and a £100,000 pension lump sum.

Numbers up as BT rings in a new service for the home

CHARLES ARTHUR Science Correspondent

BT is testing a service which could assign up to 16 telephone numbers to a single incoming line, making the phone ring

differently depending on which one is being called. The system, now on trial in Glasgow, would let several peo- rather than if".

ple in the same house each have

example the normal two short rings or two long rings. They would then know precisely who

the phone was ringing for.
BT has had the system on trial since last July among a few hundred subscribers. The company says that its introduction nationwide is "a matter of when

The move is part of an effort per quarter per extra number

an "assigned" ringing tone - for to fight back against cable companies, which are using their own recently installed digital TV and telephone networks to of-

fer a wide range of services. Cambridge Cable, which owns four franchises covering a total of 500,000 homes. has been offering the same "multiple ring" service - IdentiCall - since December at £6

cable companies are also plan-ning to introduce the service.

The system uses a facility available through digital telephone exchanges by which a particular phone number does not have to be connected to an actual line. Alternatively, many numbers can be assigned to a single line, with a particular ring-

assigned to the line. Other change nearest to the phooe. It could be used by somebody working at home who wanted to distinguish between incoming

business and personal calls (which would be listed under different numbers in a phonebook) or by families who might want to offer teenagers a separate phone number.

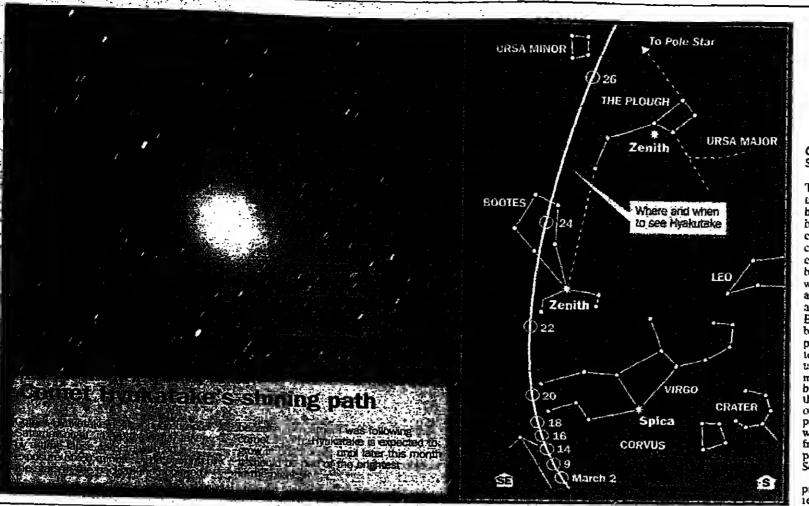
Outgoing calls would still be ing pattern, controlled by the ex-charged to a single hill, but

itemised billing would make it exchange can vary the length of possible to identify who made individual rings, but not their which calls.
While the technical limit is

16 lines per phone, it gets have been available for some increasingly difficult to distin-

Multiple-number facilities

Naval officer stole to fund betting



Spotters await the comet of the century

CHARLES ARTHUR Science Correspondent

Thousands of amateur astronomers are preparing their binoculars to watch what could be the brightest comet so far this century. Comet Hyukatake, discovered in January by a Japanese amateur, will be at its brightest by the end of this week, when it should be visible all night as a large, fuzzy patch a little smaller than the Moon. Besides being exceptionally bright for a comet, it will also pass very close - in cosmic terms - to the Earth. On Saturday it will be just 10 million miles away, having travelled bundreds of millions of miles through space on an elliptical orbit around the Sun that has probably taken centuries. It will then pass 20 million miles from the Sun before disappearing below the plane of the Solar System.

Although some comets have proved disappointingly dim afer predictions that they would light up the sky, experts are hopeful this will be different.

It looks as though this is going to be very bright, said the noted astronomer Patrick Moore yesterday, "I don't think that it will be as big as the full moon, but part of that is because it is still approaching us. It will look more like a conventional comet - with a tail streaming behind it - next month, when it is moving away from us.

Comets are frozen bodies of gas, liquid and rocks a few miles across whose "tails" are created by streams vapourising as the Sun heats them up. The tail always points away from the

The comet is currently most visible in the early hours of the morning, after about 3am. It is best viewed using binoculars: Telescopes don't have a wide enough field of view," said Mr Moore. But as the week progresses it will become hrighter and more visible throughout more of the night as it moves towards the sky's North Pole.

Anyone wanting to see it should find a spot away from city lights and allow their eyes to adjust to the lower brightness of the stars. It should be possible to spot the comet using the

star chart (see graphic).

Hyukatake is now expected to be the brightest comet for at least 20 years, and possibly since the turn of the century. It was discovered in January by Yuji Hyukatake, an amateur astronomer using a powerful pair of oin binoculars. At that time it showed up only as a faint smudge of light against the background of stars, but will now probably remain visible un-

But even before Hyukatake has come fully into view, as-tronomers are preparing for the arrival next year of Comet Hale-Bopp, which will make its closest approach to the Sun on April. It could eventually be brighter than Hyukatake, according to experts who spotted it beyond Jupiter's orbit last

Stress hits 40 per cent of police officers'

LIZ HUNT

Nearly a quarter of police offidistress as a result of their dayto-day policing activities, according to a new study.

cant" psychological distress, and reported a much higher level of symptoms of post-trau-matic stress disorder than the general population Symptoms included flash-

backs to incidents, nightmares; "critical incident debriefing and inability to sleep or enjoy nor- peer group counselling for ofmal activities, and an over re- ficers in need of help. But offiliance on alcohol and drugs, cers in the survey said they as many symptoms as men. Officers with the longest ser-

vice suffered the highest levels of distress, according to Jennifer Mitchell-Gibbs, an inspector in the Essex force, who with Dr Smart Mitchell, a clinical psychologist at Hartlepool General Hospital, surveyed 1,000 constables and sergeants from a force in south-east England:

"This is contrary to expectations. Officers don't become immune to tranmatic events over time ... the effect of stress is cumulative; a drip-drip effect and then it may be just one fatal accident too many that is the crunch," she said.

Death, major disasters, and incidents resulting in injury to themselves or colleagues, were the most common problems. However, attendance at a sudden death, a very common policing duty, was described as "very distressing", particularly for those contacting the relatives of the dead person. Some 23 per cent of officers displayed severe psychological distress.

Magnetism By Mirostav Holub

And what use is it?

in history, because

who understand braces.

or we ask about nothing.

Faraday replied, gazing lower than her luce collar:

When the Queen, over the magnetic lines of force on Faraday's rough table, asked

And what use, Mo am, is a child?

modern markind is divided into those who understand gravitation and those

in which case the universe originated in the Square of the Republic through the condensation of Saint Nicholas's deodorant.

This week is National Science Week, the third of its kind, led by the British Association for the Advancement of Science and designed to increase public understanding and interest in science. This poem is taken from a new collection, Supposed to Fly (Bloodaxe, £8.95), by Miroslav Holub. Holub is a rare creature: a leading Czech scientist and ber most important poet; whose preoccupations - the pitching of scientific rationale against the central mystery of buman existence - pitch and bob

around his verse. "He is," wrote Ted Hughes, "one of the half-

dozen most important poets writing anywhere.

It was n high point of science

we either ask about everything,

The survey found there was a beavy emphasis on suppressing emotions, but this prevented officers from asking for help.. "It is part of the police culture to project strength, authority, resilience the John Wayne syndrome', "Ms Mitchell-Gibbs Overall 40 per cent of the told the first European Conforce studied showed signifi-ference On Traumanic Stress In - ference On Traumatic Stress In Emergency Services, Peace Keeping Operations and Hu-manitarian Aid Organisations in Sheffield yesterday

The British force has adopted US practices of relying on

they inistrusted their colleagues. Ms Mitcbell-Gibbs said that previous studies suggested that the British force was less vulnerable to stress generated by their daily duties, but found bureaucracy, their workload and bad relationships with colleagues more stressful The study confounds this

view. Ms Mitchell-Gibbs said. and exposes the toll general policing takes on a force. Another study presented at

the conference which challenges accepted views, was that more than three-quarters of people with post-traumatic stress disorder have no previous history of psychiatric problems. However a significant number had suffered a major life experience - both good and bad -in the 12 months prior to the

trauma which triggered PTSD.

The study of mental bealth patients in Nottingham revealed that the most common traumas included road accidents and assaults, and bad birth experiences for women.

DAILY POEM

IF NOBODY EVER TOLD US WHEN **ACCIDENTS HAPPENED, WORKING CONDITIONS WOULD NEVER HAVE IMPROVED.**



Thanks to the co-operation of employers and managers over the years, British workplaces are

By reporting any incidents and accidents that have occurred.

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INPURIES: DISEASES AND DANGEROUS DECURRENCES

TELL US THEY'VE HAPPENED BEFORE THEY HAPPEN AGAIN



Reducing Risks - Protecting People

IN BRIEF

Car bomb kills six in Algerian city Algiers — A car bomb exploded yesterday outside the police headquarters in the north-east-

ern city of Tizi-Ouzou, killing at

least six people and injuring 25

others, hospital sources re-

ported. Twenty of the injured were said to be in a serious

First reports indicated the

bomb went off in a car perked near the main police station, not

far from the railway terminal.

Local officials blamed the

Armed Islamic Group (GIA).

Algeria's most violent militant

Muscow - Russian troops

stormed into a village in west-

ern Chechnya to mop up pock-

ets of resistance by separatist rebels, Russian news agencies

said. The assault on the village

of Samashki, about 20 miles

west of the Chechen capital,

Grozny, followed heavy Russian losses. A Russian official said that 11 servicemen were

killed in an ambush. Reuter

Tramp burned alive

Paris - Youths killed a home-

less man by setting him on fire

in a street near the Eurostar ter-minal at the Gare du Nord, po-

lice said. The victim, aged about

30, was apparently doused with methylated spirits. Witnesses re-

ported seeing three or four

youths running away from the

Tunis - Five Central African

leaders launched a new crack-

down on intimidation in camps

effort to persuade them it is

safe to return home. Former

US president Jimmy Carter

announced the measures, clos-

refugees that it's safe and ad-

vantageous to return," he

Camp crackdown

Russian offensive

condition.

organisation.

Bombe

ordanian challeng royal inst

Confident Taiwan rolls out its tanks

TERESA POOLE

Hsinchu

Sixty miles south of Taipei, the 51st Tank Brigade was ready and waiting. But Lieutenant-General Kao An-guo, the deputy commander of Taiwan's Northern Field Army, was not letting on if he was concerned.

"I do not think the Chinese Communists have the ability to cross the Taiwan Strait," he said yesterday, as 40 tanks and armoured troop carriers put on a demonstration of what would await them if they did.

The training and attack base. in the suburbs of Hsinehu city. is home to 1,700 troops, one of many bases on Taiwan. If the general was to he believed, the brigade had stayed on level 5. the lowest in terms of alert. "We do not feel tense," he said.

Yesterday, as blustery rain and fog shrouded Taiwan and the strait, the battle was mostly about propaganda. As the tank brigade was put through its paces for the world's television cameras. Taiwan's message was confident. "We are ready to repulse any invading force coming from outside the island," said General Kao.

On the mainland side of the Taiwan Strait, China's latest military exercises appeared to have been delayed by bad weather, But preparations for a show of force were under way.

On the island of Pingtan, off China's south-east coast, radio broadcasts ordered residents of nearby islets to evacuate to the mainland before 4pm. Civilians on coastal areas were also told to move, and fishermen to stay in port.

People's Liberation Army (PLA) tanks and troop-carrying vehicles were reported to be patrolling the streets of Pingtan. "There are tanks, troop carriall over. The army has taken ern port of Keelung.

charge of local traffic," a local

official reported. The new exercises, which were due to start vesterday and continue until after Taiwan's presidential election on Saturday, are expected to include well-publicised amphibious landings on Pingtan. It will be an unmistakable message to Taiwanese voters. Last November, large-scale beach land-ings were included in mainland exercises and then shown at length on state television for Taiwan's benefit. This week's army. navy and air force manoeuvres are expected to be larger than ever, over an area stretching to the middle of the Taiwan Strait. in Hong Kong, the Peking-controlled Wen Wei Po news-

paper quoted a PLA leader as saying China might need to widen the latest exercises. The scale of strategic exercises currently and in the future

may have to be enlarged," said the deputy commander of Shenyang military district, Shi Although few analysts believe the PLA will attempt to seize

any of Taiwan's territory this week, residents of small islands closest to the test zone have decided not to wait around. Large numbers of soldiers are on alert, and the towns have almost shut down. On Wuchiu, 11 miles south of

the zone, only 16 of the 82 residents remain, and they are under curfew. The 200 islanders still on the Chu islands, 11 miles north of the zone, prac-tised air-raid drills yesterday. About 300 islanders decided to flee on Sunday, although the government has no official policy concerning evacuation.

Fishing boats, which would normally work these waters. were warned repeatedly to stay clear of the region and were ers and other military vehicles turned back to Taiwan's north-



Fighting talk: Taiwanese soldiers carrying a shell during exercises near the northern town of Hukou

Tension in the region will escalate this week after the arrival of the US aircraft-carrier Nimitz, and the decision on whether it should pass through the Taiwan Strait. At the week-

said any show of force in the strait would "merely complicate matters". In Hsinchu, General Kao was reticent about the US aircraft-carrier. "I wish the American soldiers ... Oh, no ... I can't tell you in detail," he end, China's Prime Minister. I can't tell you in detail," he news of the PLA's exercises Li Peng, warned it not to. He smiled. Yesterday's tank has been orchestrated by offi-

demonstration had been organised at short notice, following the mainland's slick television portrayal of missile tests near Taiwan earlier this month. Unlike China, where

propaganda organs, Taiwan's publicity exercise was low-key, although Taiwanese journalists were banned. Had General Kao beard anything about mainland manoeuvres that day? "I have no time to

laughed. As tanks emerged from the fog on to the battle ing three days of talks. The uncertain thing is convincing the

training-ground, the commen-tary said: "With psychological warfare, the enemy will be easier to be destroyed." But the most effective weapon vesterday read the newspapers today, he appeared to be the weather.

for Rwandan refugees, in an Photograph: Booby Yip/Reuter

Tamil Tiger attack

Colombo — Sri Lankan Tamil Tiger guerrillas killed 18 soldiers in a landmine attack in the northern Jaffna peninsula, in the first hig rebel attack in several weeks. Reuter

Democracy blues

Harare — Fewer than half of Zimbabwe's 4.9 million voters cast hallots in the presidential election at the weekend, seen as a mere formality after a boycott by challengers to President Robert Mugabe. Interim figures showed about 31.4 per cent of registered voters turned

Nobel poet dies

Athens - Odysscus Elytis, 85, who won the Nobel Prize for home in central Athens yesterday. Radio stations broke into programmes to announced his death and many started nonstop broadcasts of his poems. which became hugely popular when set to music. Reuter Obitoary, page 12

Zbukovsky, Russia - The Tupolev company has unveiled a prototype update of its Tu-144 "Concordsky" airliner, which it hopes US inoney will turn into the supersonic passenger aircraft of the 21st century. The Tu-144LL retains the drop-nosed. delta-wing look of the 28-yearold Soviet rival to Concorde but is fitted with more powerful engines, developed for nuclear

Sydney - Animal rights activists are fighting a plan by South Australia's National Parks and Wildlife Service to kill or remove 2,000 koalas on an island near Adelaide to halt a potentially disastrous population explosion. A state government spokesman said the present population of 5,000 animals was quickly stripping the island's eucalyptus trees a Third World mentality of of leaves - the creatures main

Riots rack Indonesian province a hospital from Cipinang prison,

LEWA PARDOMUAN

Jakarta — Several hundred youths rioted in the Indonesian province of Irian Java yesterday. ket and damaging huildings in a second week of violence.

Riots hit the town of Abepu-ra when the body of Thomas Wapai Wainggai, who died last week while serving a prison sen-tence in Jakarta, arrived in the provincial capital, Jayapura, for hurial. "They burned cars and a market and damaged build-Residents said Jayapura.

2,000 miles east of Jakarta, was sealed off by the military. Offices were shut and frightened residents staved indoors.

The riots broke out in Abeoura after protesters were stopped from heading to Javapura, 12 miles away. Residents and the army said last night that calm had returned but soldiers continued to patrol. Tension has reduced but

the military is still keeping a watchful eye. There have been no reports of arrests or casualties," an army officer said by telephone from Javanura.

An official at the Javapura general hospital said that there an independent Melanesian were some injuries but there no

Residents said the riots, by 300-400 people, were linked to Wainggai, who was sentenced to 20 years in jail for proclaiming state in Irian during a flag-rais-ing ceremony in 1987.

Seventy people, along with Wainggai, were tried for sub-version and in 1988 were jailed for between six and 20 years. Wainggai, a US-trained anthropologist said to have died of heart problems on the way to

just outside Jakarta, was be-lieved to be in his sixtics. His Japanese wife was sentenced to six years in jail and has since been released, but 21 others are still in detention. Residents said the rioters, mostly students, wanted to take

> sity before it was taken to his family home. "He was a teacher at the university and they want-ed to take him there before he was buried," one resident said. Last week the Irian towns of Timika and Tembagapura, crates one of the world's largest copper and gold mines, were rocked by riots by disgruntled tribespeople frustrated at not benefiting from the develop-

Wainggai's body to the univer-

ment in trian. Diplomats said Wainggai was believed to have had close links with the separarist Free Papua Movement (OPM), which is fighting for an independent Irian Jaya. OPM rebels have been holding 11 hostages, including six Europeans, in the forbidding jungles of Irian since 8 January.

Abortion clinic killer faces life in prison one of his victims, he cried:

JOHN CARLIN Washington

John Salvi, 24, was found guilty vesterday of murder after a Massachusetts jury turned down a defence claim that he was insane when he went on a shooting rampage at two Boston abortion clinics on 30 December 1994, killing two re-ecptionists and wounding five

conspiracy against the Roman Catholic Church, faces life in jail after convictions on two counts of first-degree murder and five counts of assault with intent to murder. There is no death penalty in Massachusetts.

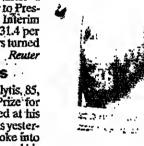
Salvi's defence did not quesfacts of the case, but contended that at the time of the killings he was prey to paranoid schizophrenia. Some of the evinsanity plea. Witnesses testified

"This is what you get! You should pray the rosary!" Before the trial started Salvi

repeatedly disrupted hearings; insisting he be granted an opportunity to make a statement to the media about an anti-Catholic conspiracy in which, he said, the Freemasons and the Ku-Klux-Klan were involved. The prosecution successful

argued, however, that Salvi Salvi, who says he believes had carried out the killings abortion is part of a worldwide with clear premeditation and alert to the fact that what he was doing was illegal and wrong. Witnesses said that he was seen practising at a shooting-range the day before his rampage. Salvi's father said his son

had been a normal healthy tion the police version of the child, but late in his teens became strange and withdrawn, spending long hours closeted in his bedroom reading the Bible. Salvi's lawyers said his crime had idence appeared to support the insanity plea. Witnesses testified of four Catholic priests in Algeria on 27 December 1994.



Flying high

bombers.

Trees stripped bear

Seoul bars British journalist who parodied president

RICHARD LLOYD PARRY

In an apparent toughening of its attitude towards the foreign media, South Korea has rejected a request by Jeremy Hanley, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, to reinstate a British journalist expelled after writing articles poking fun at President Kim Young Sam.

Earlier this month Mr Hanley asked Gong Ro Myung, the Foreign Minister, to reconsider the case of Bruce Cheesman. who works for the .- Instrulian Financial Review. On 26 February,

Seoul, his application for a new visa was rejected by the Justice Ministry.

Despite lobhying by diplomats, a government spokesman said the decision was "irrevocable and Mr Cheesman would not be allowed to work again in South Korea. No official reason has been

given, hut Sohn Woo Hyun, director-general of the foreignmedia division of the Korean Overseas Information Service. said Mr Cheesman had violated immigration regulations by doing research while visiting the

peatedly gone heyond the bounds of what we consider sound journalistic practice. He repeatedly made false and defamatory allegations about

the government of Korea." Mr Cheesman insisted his visits as a tourist were made years ago and that what really rattled Seoul was his personal criticism of President Kim and members of his family.

Chief among the govern-ment's complaints is the case of the presidential Buddha, Last year Koreans were shaken by a series of disasters, including store in Seoul in which more from lawyers for the Korean than 500 people were killed. A Buddnist paper reported rumours that Mr Kim, a Christian, had ordered the removal

of a Buddha statue from the garden of the presidential palace. This - the rumours went - had angered the heavers. The President's men denied

The Financial Review's jokey account, complete with cartoon, most serious allegations. and citing inside sources, provoked fury. Mr Cheesman was hauled in for the latest in a series of official scoldings. Last

after nine years working in country as a tourist, and had "re- the collapse of a bridge and a week the Review received papers government initiating defamation proceedings.

But more decisive, Mr Cheesman believes, was the book he has been working on: an unofficial biography of Mr Kim focusing on the most con-troversial rumours which billow around the charismatic Presithe Buddha had been moved. dent. He admitted he has no documentary evidence for the

But, based on interviews with book will make embarrassing allegations about the funding of Mr Kim's 1992 election cam-excellent working relations. The paign and about the avowedly Christian President's private

The past few months have been a critical period for President Kim: as well as the trials of his predecessors Rob Tac Woo and Chun Doo Hwan, on charges of corruption, mutiny tions in a month's time which could rob him of control of the National Assembly.

Mr Sohn said: "This present

action is not aimed at the for-

excellent working relations. The action we have taken is a legitimate recourse of a kind acceptable in any civilised country." Until this year, no correspondent had been expelled for professional reasons since the days of military dic-

tatorship in the 1980s. "The screws have been tightand treason, his New Korea ening in the last couple of Party faces parliamentary electronic months," said Mr Cheesman, "It is anti everything that the new Korea is supposed to stand for worrying what the foreign press says about it."

Door-to-door to Dubai.



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Bomber's kin await Israelis' revenge US shift isolates

PATRICK COCKBURN al-Fawwar camp, Hehron

WERE

Carno crackdown

im Tiger attaci

TOTAL CONTRACT COMME

named that the

e de la companya de l

in Algerian city

In a few days Mariam Farahneh will watch Israeli engineers pack explosives into the walls of her house in al-Fawwar refugee camp, south of Hebron, and blow it up. At the moment she is living with 10 of her children and grandchildren in a white tent donated by the Red Cross under a tree just in front of the house, the door and windows of which are sealed with sheets of corrugated iron:

The reason for the demolition is that on 25 February her son, Ibrahim, boarded the Number 18 bus on the Jaffa road in

Jerusalem and detonated a painted house, built into the of the suicide bomber or even unable to get out of the camp. bomb, killing himself and 25 passengers. Israel has a policy of destroying the houses of the families of suicide bombers.

Hamad Farahneh, the eldest of Ibrahim's brothers, said wearily they were waiting for their appeal to be turned down: "It is a military order. They are going to demolish the house." Mahmoud, another brother. who worked as a teacher, said: "None of the family knew what Ibrahim was going to do."

Both brothers were released from jail last week, so the Israeli army presumably accepts that

This will not save the grey-

steep rocky hillside on which stands al-Fawwar, a dusty camp which is home to 6,000 Palestinians. Mrs Farahneh, who

came here in 1948 from the village of Agur, in what is now Israck says her family built it four years ago after saving for 30. years. She accepted that its destruction was assured. Is it likely that a man willing

to die would be deterred by such measures? On Sanday, Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister, told his Cahinet that when he was defence minister in the 1970s. house demolitions and deportations were effective. Of course, this was before the era Hebron university, who was

the Palestinian intifada. Other Israelis have doubts.

Shulamit Aloni, a left-wing minister, recalling that Baruch Goldstein, an Israeli settler from Kiryat Arha, killed 29 Palestinians in Hebron in 1994. said: "No one can explain to students in schools why Baruch Goldstein's house was not demolished, while today so many

houses are destroyed." The same argument was made again and again in the main street of al-Fawwar. "Our blood is cheap but theirs is expensive," said Bassam Nahnosh, a 25-year-old student at Until last weekend no food was allowed to enter.

"For thirteen days we weren't allowed to open a window or go in the streets," said Mahmoud Abu Hashash, an elderly mun who said he could not feed his large family. Most of the men in al-

Fawwar were unemployed daylabourers who had worked in Israel in agriculture or construction. They said they did not think that the four suicide bombs which killed 62 people in the past month had helped the Palestinian people as a whole. But the collective punishments had left them bitter. "You cannot get in or out of the ment is unlikely to deter them. camp and if you are caught they tine you 5,000 shekels (£660). said Mr Nahnosh.

He said that the Oslo agreement offered little enough to refugees from 1948, Indeed, in worsening conditions, it was not surprising if people without hope were prepared to turn themselves into living bombs. Mohammed al-Najar, 17, standing in the crowd showed his hand, its fingers permanently bent over. He said: "It was paralysed since I was hit in the

arm by a bullet in the intituda." People in al-Fawwar live lives of such a deprivation at the best of times that collective punish-

It may even be that the government does not believe that it will, but wants to be seen by voters to be striking back. Blowing up houses makes dramatic television pictures. Yaron London, a journalist writing in the lediot Aharanot, says that Palestinians will react to collective

punishment in same way as Israelis. "I believe there is no basic difference, he writes. "Demolishing Dr Baruch Goldstein's house and starving the Jewish population of Kirvat Arba would not prevent another Jewish zealot from mowing down innocent Arabs. On the contrary."

isolates **Britain** on land mines

CHRISTOPHER BELLAMY Defence Correspondent

Britain looks increasingly isolated among Western countries over its opposition to a total ban on the manufacture and export of anti-personnel mines after signs that the US might shift its stance and hack the han.

There are an estimated 100 million anti-personnel mines scattered round the world and they kill an estimated 20,000 people a year. Twenty-four countries have called for a total ban, as have the UN Secretary General, the European Parliament, the Organisation of African Unity and the Pope. Last week the Netherlands renounced the use of mines and France recently prohibited their production and export.

Britain and the US have opposed a ban on the grounds it would be ineffective with so many mines already in circulation and because anti-personnel mines have a role as defensive weapons provided their positions are accurately recorded.

But last week the Chairman of the US Joint Cluefs of Staff. General John Shalikashvili. ordered a review of the US military's position. He said he was "inclined to climinate all antipersonnel land-mines". Yesierday British diplomatic sources played down his words, saying the US was unlikely to change its view that, properly used, land-mines were legitimate weapons of war and that the State Department was likely to oppose any change.

At the end of last year the UN's review conference on inhumane weapons failed to agree a ban on anti-personnel mines, although it did agree a ban on laser weapons designed to damage the human eye.

The conference is due to meet again next month and British diplomatic sources said they would press for tighter restrictions on the use of mines and also for any new mines to be made so they would self-destruct after a certain period.

The Red Cross, which backs a total ban on the manufacture. transfer and use of anti-personnel mines, and other groups say self-destructing mines are unreliable and a ban is the only solution. It's an all-ornothing position, really," the Red Cross said.

City grants have helped pay

a private security firm to pairol Hollywood Boulevard and es-

tablish "beautification" teams.

Community groups have plant-

ed paim trees and surveillance

People are going to be

Ken Schessler, the 68-year-

Though he fell passionately

Brown Derby restaurant, where

Clark Gable proposed to Car-

ole Lombard, destroyed by a fire

In the early Seventies, he re-

calls: "I went up and down that

street trying to get the mer-chants to do something with

their storefronts . . . Even then

blamed on squatters.

they were giving up."

The British government does not agree, "We haven't gone hell for leather for a complete ban. a diplomatic source said.

"In any case, you won't get anywhere with the countries who are the real problem. It's no good having a pious conference of countries who don't do any harm anyway, What we're looking for is practical improvement.

Any han would only affect anti-personnel mines, and not higger, anti-tank mines.

Anti-personnel mines are designed to maim, rather than kill, and have resulted in large numbers of amputees in Cam-bodia and Africa. They are particularly dangerous to chil-

dren and animals. Though proper military proedure demands that mines be laid in marked minefields, most of the people who use them including the former warring factions in Bosnia - do not always bother.

Britain ceased the export and manufacture of anti-personnel mines in 1982, although British mines dating from before then have been found in Afghanistan.

Jordanian to challenge 'royal insult' jail term

ROBERT FISK

The most vociferous Jordanian opponent of the Middle East is a battle for the Jordanian conpeace process is to appeal stitution and that he can fight against a three-year prison sentence imposed on him in Amman's State Security Court on Sunday for slandering King. Hussein and Queen Noor.

One of his lawyers told the In-Shubeilat, a prominent trade unionist and engineer, would challenge the military court's verdict on constitutional grounds.

condemned Queen Noor for



on Jordanian reyal couple

weeping at the funeral of the Israch prime minister Yitzhak Rabin while expressing no sorrow to the family of Fathi Shkaki, the leader of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad movement murdered by Israeli agents last vear.

"We are going to appeal within 30 days and we are going to say that there is no evidence that Mr Shubeilat slandered the King," Mr Omar al-Jazy, one of Mr Shubeilat's lawyers, said. "What he stated was legitimate criticism - it was public criticism within the limits of the Jordanian constitution."

The appeal means that Mr Shubeilat's words of condemnation - made in an lecture at Irbid university in November will be repeated again, along with his assertion that the Arab-Israeli peace process is both unjust and unworkable.

American and British diplomats – as well as an Amnesty International official - were in the court on Sunday when Mr. Shubeilat was sentenced, a verdict he received smiling and rais time to develop his theories ing his right fist in the air in a in his prison cell.

gesture of victory. "Of course he was happy," a friend of the fam-

ily said yesterday.
"He thinks that his struggle more strongly when he is condemned in the courts."

The Palestinian scholar Edward Said and the Egyptian journalist Mohamed Heikal had both offered to be witnesses dependent yesterday that Laith for Mr Shubeilat at the Amman court; the three judges turned them down.

Three weeks ago Mr Shubeilat told me that King Hussein had personally warned Mr Shubeilat, who has al-him of his possible imprison-ready served four months in jail, ment and had alluded to a previous trial in which he was condemned to death - and then amnestied - for allegedly importing weapons. The state prosecution witness later said that he had been blackmailed by Jordanian intelligence into giving evidence.

According to Mr Shubeilat: "He [King Hussein] said: 'Do you want what happened to you before to happen to you again? Because this time I won't interfere. But what can I say? I must be free to speak. If they keep me in prison, it will be-come a nightmare for the gov-

Shkaki, the Islamic Jihad al months after boasting that his organisation had staged a double suicide-bombing that killed at least 20 Israeli soldiers at a

bus stop near Tel Aviv. Earlier this month, Mr Shubeilat said he condemned the killing of innocents in Israel but that the slaughter came about "because Palestinians cannot express any more what

they want except in such acts". The trade unionist, who was re-elected head of the engineering union while in prison, has visited Bosnia and spoken regularly for a constitutional rather than an absolute monarchy in Jordan. But his real crime appears to be his opposition to the peace accords. "They are not going to suc-

ceed," he said last month. They are going to be imposed ... Jordan is now under the Israeli sphere; it is being taken out of the Arab world. We are to be 'used' against Iraq and maybe Syria. We are mercenaries. But we must rebuild Arab relations."

If King Hussein has his way. Mr Shubeilat will have plenty of



Baywatch beefcake: Competitors vie for position, and a job as a lifeguard, in a race at Newport Beach, California

Tinseltown in search of lost lustre

TIM CORNWELL Los Angeles-

Workers on Los Angeles' multi-billion dollar and much-maligned new subway system tunnelling beneath Hollywood Boulevard, have been stalled by

a series of sinkholes. But the subway has fanned new hopes that Hollywood can rebound from decades of neglect. By 2,000, three stations are planned to link it with the tourist centre at Universal Stu-

dios and central Los Angeles. . The mayor, Richard Riordan, pledged recently to revitalise old Hollywood. It is east as one of the city's greatest wasted assets. Six million tourists a year, the mayor claimed, come to pick out the stars' names on the pavements and linger over their imprints in the forecourt of

Granmann's Chinese Theatre.

Most of them take one look and never come back. Hollywood is littered with stunning art deco architecture and memories of the silver screen. Flowers mark the spot where the late George Burns planted his cigar in the concrete: Disney runs premieres at the newly restored El Capitan theatre; and there are plans to reopen The Egyptian, where the first film premiere was held for Douglas Fairbanks Inc's Robin Hood. But an atmosphere of grunge

The boulevard of broken infects the area. Almost every leader, was assassinated sever- dreams is closed to traffic. day, police say, they are visited by a stricken tourist family who have been robbed at gunpoint or had their car looted of all their possessions. The side streets are home to more than a dozen gangs, drug dealers, and prostitutes who haunt the cheap motels. Sardi's, at Hollywood

and Vine, where Charlie Chap-lin dined, has become one of the 300,000 residents, more than many porno theatres.

stars moved their homes west to Beverly Hills or Brentwood. Locals often blame drifters and the homeless, drawn to Hollywood's old lustre, for perpetuating its seedy atmosphere.

half of them Hispanic. But Hollywood's decline dates businessmen and property ownback to the late 1950s, when the ers are determined to take the mayor at his word, tervently believing they are owed a piece of cameras around some of the the rehounding economy in

Mayor Riordan is up for reelection this autumn and busy on Santa Monica.



Lost landmark: Charlie Chaplin (right), Paulette Goddard and Tim Durant at the Brown Derby restaurant in 1935. The restaurant has since hurnt down Photograph: Hulton Deutsch



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After Maastricht: The Inter-Governmental Conference, starting next week, must rebuild public confidence

People's will turns against EU ideals

SURAH HELM

The last few years have not been a hppy time for the EU. Faith in he. Union has evaporated acres the continent. The thin hlac lines on the graphs of pubic opinion began to dip aroud 1990, and have zig-zaged steadily downwards. Today mly half Europe's citizens thin their country has benefited fror EU membership.

Itis a bad time for the EU, and et it coincides with the momen when the 15 member state are set to rewrite the fourling treaties, setting a new diretion for the millennium. A Europe's leaders gear up

for he Inter-Governmental Concrence, to be launched in Turi on 29 March, they are consious the crisis of public confilence in the EU is worse thansver. They talk constantly of etting "closer to the citi-zen" and of making Europe "releant." But there is little reason to believe the IGC will win hack support for integration. Rathe, it is likely to confuse and aliente people further.

Ony five years ago, John Majorwelcomed the results of the lat IGC with a triumphant "Gam, set and match." No one would claim to regard the Maasticht treaty with that degree o satisfaction today. Horst Teltschik, who helped negotiate Maasticht as an adviser to Helmit Kohl, the German Chancilor, admits Europe's political leaders were wrong not to sek greater public support fo the treaty at the time. We vere too self-confident. We belived we had the support of the eople," Mr Teltschik said. "I was a mistake. We should live explained what we were dong and why we were do-

4.5

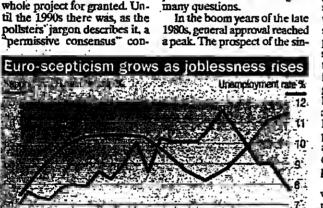


ing it more than we did. The goals were important and it was uportant to explain them."

Opinion polls only hint at the depth of disillusion; there are many other indicators. There is a growing tendency to hlame Brussels for economic ills and loss of cultural identity. The media in many member states run more and more ann-EU stories, both mythical and true, suggesting there is a public appetite for Euro-scepticism.

Ignorance about the way that Europe really works suggests there is apathy and confusion. Only 20 per cent of Europeans have heard of the forthcoming IGC on Europe, although it is billed as a historic watershed.

The British have always had their very British opinions on Europe. But for decades most continental citizens took the whole project for granted. Until the 1990s there was, as the polisters' jargon describes it, a "permissive consensus" con-



cerning Europe in most of the member states. The public acgle market raised high hopes. while the dynamism of Jacques Delors, the former commiscepted that integration, in general, was a good thing, and that sion president, helped to proit was being promoted to premote an impression of progress. war and produce eco-The collapse of the Soviet nomic benefits. People were Union added to a sense of largely content to leave the joh long-term security. of constructing Europe to the political clite without asking too

The downturn in support he-gan in 1990 and 1991, before the signing of the Maastricht treaty, which subsequently became the scapegoat for the collapse in public confidence. In retroect, many in Brussels ascribe the new disillusion to growing fear about the effects of the single market, and suspicion that hopes had been falsely raised about its benefits. When the Maastricht debate gathered pace in 1992. Europeans were already in a sceptical mood. Recession, and growing unem-ployment, made things worse.

This scepticism deepened when they started to contemplate the new reform programme. Maastricht more than previous, European reforms, raised questions about the

principles of EU membership. The 1992 debate invited people to ask a fundamental question they may not have asked before: what is Europe for! The treaty failed to answer the question, serving only to confuse. As a blue-print for European union Maastricht was alienating and impenetrable. It was rejected in

Happier days: John Major at the Maastricht summit in 1991. Five years on, public faith in Europe has plummeted

almost rejected by the French. Since 1992 the indicators suggest no return of public confidence in "Europe." Talk of seeking a new "European identity" has only served to focus minds on the lack of any such thing. Furthermore, Europe's attempts at harmonisation are hlamed for destroying the iden-

a Danish referendum and was

tities of nadons and regions. The advocates of EU integration argue they are at-tempting to lessen the effects of "globalisation". But ordinary people see the EU as an instrument of that process. "People lonce felt they were the principle under which powmembers of a nation state, er ought to be exercised at

it is absolutely necessary, is but at the same time they don't once again being emphasised. And the European Commission. feel like members of something called Europe," says the unelected bureaucracy, seen Denis Maeshane, a pro-Euro-

pean Labour MP. After the Maastricht disappointment, it is not surprising that Europeans now recoil against the prospect of another round of abstruse debate over their future. This IGC could run on into the second half of 1997. 'It is asking a lot of people to follow all of this. We are seen to be in a state of permanent revolution." said a senior official in the European Commission. "People are tired of it. They just don't want to know, They seem to be saying: Just let

us be left in peace". Setting their agenda for Turin. EU heads of government have shown they are aware of these concerns. More user-friendly concepts are being emphasised. such as greater "democracy". and "openness". Subsidiarity. Now they feel that less and less, supra-national level only where

outvoted on beef drug ban KATHERINE BUTLER

Britain

EU ministers outvoied Britain vesterday and agreed to tighten a ban on the use of hormone drugs in meat production. Agriculture ministers decided not just to retain the eight-year-old ban on growth-promoting drugs and imports of hormone-treated meat but to introduce stricter controls, checks and penalties.

Britain, which opposed the original decision to ban hormones in 1989, stood alone in demanding that farmers should be tree to use growth-promoting substances which pose no risk to human health. Tony Baldry, Agriculture Minister of State, urged colleagues to heed the findings of a panel of independent scientists which concluded last month that derivatives of five natural hormones were safe if used under prescribed conditions.

Britain also warned that tightening the hormone ban at this stage would sour the long dispute with the US, which permits hormones and whose beef exports are excluded by the

Washington has lodged a complaint with the Genevabased World Trade Organisation and the sides are due to hold conciliation talks later this month. "This accord clearly will not help. It is inopportune said a senior British official.

Photograph: Bnan Hams

as the real bogey in the public

mind, is threatened with loss of

status and power in the IGC.

There are also growing signs

that leaders are frantically look-

ing for ways to buy public

acceptance for the new IGC

programme, with vague promis-

es of policies for jobs and social

protection, a greater role for

national parliaments and

greater attention to local

So far the public has had lit-

tle reason to believe the views

of the "citizens" will be taken

into account, and the omens do

not look good. One of the most marked findings of recent opin-

ion polls was that seven out of

10 Europeans believed the next

IGC ought to be put to a ref-

erendum in their country. With-

out a dramatic upswing in the

public mood, the results of

such referendums are unlikely

ensitivities.

to be positive.

US producers say that thanks to the ban they lose \$100m (£66m) a year in exports. But the overwhelming view of EU ministers yesterday was that relaxation at this stage would unleash a consumer backlash. triggering a potential beef-market collapse. The incidence of BSE or "mad-cow disease" particularly in Britain, has led to a big decline in consumption: legalising hormones would pro-voke a further drop of up to 30 per cent, according to European Commission studies.

The Irish Agriculture Minister, Ivan Yates, whose country's economy is more dependent on beef than any other EU member, reflected the general mood. 'We are determined to resist US pressure to do anything which would undermine consumer confidence in red meat."

News analysis, page 13

Priest fights church homosexuality charge

Cypriot riest accused of homosexuaity by his church will. today answer its charges while a Nottingiam-based priest has decided to sue the archbishopric for libel fir naming him in the

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the charge sheet as a homosexual is Takovos Savva, who has let it be known through his lawyer that he intends to bring

libel proceedings.

The threat of legal action against the church is the latest twist in an affair that sparked Meraclis, 19, demes allegations some of the worst rioting in of moral inpropriety. The Not-years in Nicosia, when Mr Mer-

acus s supporters besieged archhishopric before being dispersed by riot police. We believe the procedure

[trial] against Meraclis is a complete illegality. It was hased on the testimony of incompetent witnesses and church rules were not followed." said his lawyer Efstathios Efstathiou, an MP and chairman of the

pariiameniary Two members of the Holy

Synod have publicly agreed with lawyers who criticised the procedure against Mr Meraclis , a taxi driver, as a violation of church rules. The two men who testified against him and a massage parlour owner, have since moved to Romania.

Serbs stage burning exit from Sarajevo

EMMA DALY

The pop and crackle of hurning bullets peppered the farewell speeches as the Bosnian Serb police in Sarajevo lowered their flag in a ceremony to mark their withdrawal from Grbavica, a front-line suburb reverting to government rule today. As smoke drifted from hous-

es burning in the background. two dozen policemen in royal hlue camouflage lined up in front of headquarters, for speeches lamenting the Serbs' departure and promising their return some day. Officials kissed the red-white-and-blue flag, taken down to the strains of an old Serb anthem.

"We are leaving proudly," Milorad Katic, the Serb mayor, told his men. There was a huge explosion: the fire set in a house nearby by Serbs who are angry about their losses had finally reached the ammunition dumped there.

Similar bangs punctuated the afternoon in Grbavica yesterday, its desolate landscape of grun towerblocks wreathed in the smoke of fires set by gangs of enraged Serbs. Police from the Muslim-

Croat Federation are due to take control of the suburb at 6am today, marking the final reunification of Sarajevo under the Dayton peace plan. The dispossessed are wreaking their revenge. Italian Nato troops in Grbavica have spent

the past few days rescuing civil-ians from burning buildings, and

arresting Serb men for arson

and possession of explosives.

else to live in their house.

Unfortunately, the Italian commander is under orders to turn these miscreants over to the Bosnian Serb police. The

arsonists are then released. So it is that Nato tries to keep order in the last hours of the Serb presence in Sarajevo.

Ljiljana Bukic wept as she watched the flames roaring through the rafters of her building, despite the best efforts of her elderly neighbours who ran between their kitchens and bulconies hurling water at the fire. They managed, without the help of the Sarajevo fire department, to extinguish the flames and save the building. "We were planning to stay

hut you see what is going on -Hitler did not do what these people are doing," Mrs Bukic said through tears. "It's like a child's game," she added.

She had heard that some men had started the fire in one of the flats, but she had not seen them, "I would have strangled them - they would not have had to go to The Hague war crimes tribunall," she said. "There were children in this building." Mr Katic said: "This is what

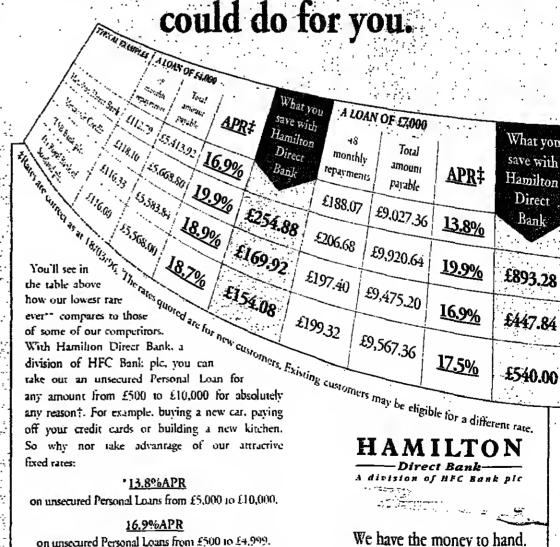
our people are doing because they are dissatisfied and because of the tragedy that has befallen them," he said. "I understand why. I have sympathy for them because they don't want anyone

The Serbs who wish to stay are being driven out by propa-ganda from their own side. The UN believes only 8,000 to 10,000 Serbs - 10 to 12 per cent of the wartime population have remained in the five Sarajevo suburbs changing hands.

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obituaries/gazette

Odysseus Elytis

West of Sorrow is the title of the Elytis had already had his bapfinal collection of poems by Odysseus Elytis, published in Greek at the end of last year. The seven poems of the collection were apparently written the poet's 84th, spent at Porto Rafti on the coast outside

Elytis will probably always be remembered as a poet of the Greek summer and of the Acgean sea. His first poems date from 1929, and his almost annual visits as a young man to the Greek islands. In the 1930s Elvtis quickly established him-self as one of the leading voices of a generation that included George Seferis, and the prolific and politically committed Yannis Ritsos.

His poems of that decade celebrated, under the gathering shadows of war to come, the vitality and vibrancy of an Aegean landscape and the unharnessed energies of man at its beart. The poems of Orientations. his first and longest collection. published in 1940, combine a paganistic worship of nature with the free association and challient licence of the Surrealist movement, which he had himself helped to transplant to Greece (although characteristically he avoided defining himself or his work as

Surrealist).
This exultation carried the 30year-old Elytis even into the Second World War, and the hortions of censorship he conunued his praise of natural forces.

tism of fire. Serving in the front line on the Albanian front, in the winter of 1940-41, when the Greeks, in appalling conditions, succeeded in heating back Mussolini's invading troops. Elytis had already come close to death, and he gave form to the experience in the sombre but ultimately triumphant "Heroic and Elegaic Song of the Lost Second Lieutenant of

In this long poem, published in 1945, and in its successor, The Axion Esti, published 14 years later and still reckoned to be his masterpiece, Elytis comes fully to grips with the confrontation of good and evil in the world. Life and the creative urges that bind man to Nature are celebrated in these later poems, but now they have to fight against the dark, against the inhuman, incomprehensible pow-er of "iron and fire". But, even here, the poetic instinct survives, bloodied but triumphant, through the unshakeable bond that ties man to his landscane and hinds both with a stern morality which is the order of the cosmos.

After a decade of relative silence in the 1960s (prolonged by the arrival of military dictatorship in his country, and Elytis's principled refusal, along with many other established writers, to publish under those conditions), Elytis in the 1970s went on to perfect what has been termed an "interior lyrirors of the Axis occupation of Athens, where under condistatement in which words no longer refer to the world but instead create it. This is most fineundeterred, in his second vol-ume. Sun the First (1943). But The Light-Tree and The Monoby the time Nazi troops had arrived to take over his country, side Greece, in 1971). At the

same time, during the Seventies, Elytis returned to the form of the long, complex poem that he had perfected with The Axion Esti. Neither Maria Nefeli (1978) nor The Little Sailor (1984, but written earlier) achieves quite the mastery of large-scale architecture combined with the stinging force of minute detail that characterise the earlier work, but both have

earned their admirers. At an age when retirement is the norm in most professions, Elytis continued to write and publish prolifically through the 1980s, Among his last work The Oxopetra Elegies (1991) stands out: a sustained meditation on death which proclaims, with mellow warmth, the superior power of poetry, and ex-tends the range of Elytis' writing well beyond its Aegean homeland, to embrace and breathe new life into the legacy of the German Romantics, especially Hölderlin and Novalis.

As well as being a poet, Elytis is the author of two large books of essays. Curiously, the hird that takes wing with such lyrical power in verse, turns out to be ungainly in the more sober medium of prose. Ar-resting in their insights and often moving in their declama-tion, Elytis' essays on the whole complement rather than illuminate his poems, and are often harder to read. He was prolific as a translator of verse (mainly French, but he is also credited with introducing Lor-ca into Greece), and from his Surrealist friends be learnt and never lost the art of photocollage, whose method has a certain affinity with the bold juxtapositions of his poems. Elytis became almost a na-

tional institution in his native

country, to the extent that ra-dio and television programmes were interrupted yesterday with the announcement of his death. This may reflect the greater seriousness with which poetry is still taken in Greece than it is

But this popularity has another cause, too. Since the late 1950s, poems of his have been set to music by popular com-posers such as Mikis Theodorakis, and some were even specially written as songs. In this way, a poet whose work at first sight seems highly individual, dense, and complex, has for many years appealed straight to the heart of people who may not often have sat down with a book in their hands. The passing of Elytis is a testament to that disappearing "oral culture" that was still strong in the Greece of his generation.

Elytis' international reputa-

1979, when he won the Nobel Prize for Literature. This has been most marked in France, where a major exhibition in his honour was held at the Pompidou Centre during the 1980s. Elytis' unembarrassed exuberance seems to transfer well into French, while Anglo-Saxon readers (and translators) tend to prefer a greater reticence. However, The Axion Esti has been translated into English in full, by Edmund Keeley and the late George Savidis (1974, reissued by Anvil Press, 1980). Selections from Elytis' poetry up to the early 1970s can be found in The Sovereign Sun, translated by Kimon Friar (Bloodaxe Books, Newcastle, originally published in the US, 1974) and the Selected Poems, by various hands, published by Anvil in 1981. The Oxopetra

Elegies, translated by David Connolly, is due to appear very

Ever since he decided, in

1936, to abandon his studies at the Athens Law School (the training-ground of so many 20th-century men of letters), Elytis' life was dedicated to poetry. He was reticent in public about such matters as political affiliation; he held administrative posts in organisations such as Greek National Radio, and the National Theatre, but not for long. An account of his life, apart from his work, might well take the form of a list of his travels, both in Greece and in Europe, espe-cially France. His family background (his father owned a prosperous soap factory; one reason, it is supposed, for the decision of the young Odysseus Alepoudelis to write under a pseudonym) gave him the op-portunity for this, and so he was not obliged, like Seferis, to fol-low a career in parallel with his tion goes back well beyond life as a poet.

But Odysseus Elitis was no poet of the ivory tower. Poetry, for him, was not an evasion of the deeper responsibilities of life; for the poet, he believed, poetry is the deepest responsi-bility of life. His definition of death, from an essay of 1976, both shows this, and acquires particular poignancy at the end of a writing career of almost three score years and ten:

Death is where words no longer have the power to generate, right from the start, the things that they name.

Roderick Beaton

Odysseus Alepoudelis (Odysseus Elytis), poet born Heraklion, Crete 2 November 1911; Nobel Athens 18 March 1996.



Nobel prizewinner: Elytis at home in Athens, 1979

Brian Hulls

Brian Hulls was one of the Eastern television company finest news and documentary cameramen of his generation.

assuring to know that he had been assigned to a story, to meet him at the airport, or in some rotten hotel close to a front line. You knew that if there was a picture to be had, he would get it. But just as important was his judgement, his intelligence and his nerve. We once had the dubious pleasure of running together across the old bridge at Mostar in Bosnia-Hercegovina while the Croat gunmen who had it in their sights were doing their best to destroy it and everything that made the mistake of moving on

it. Hulls's less than intrepid reoner dasned over at top speed. He trotted behind, calmly panning his camera across the gorge of the river Neretva and the ruins of the city. The world has been through

a lot of pain since the end of the Cold War. Brian Hulls was usually there to record what was happening. I worked with him in Saudi Arabia, in Baghdad during the Gulf War, in Iraqi Kurdistan after it ended, in Somalia, in Sarajevo and in Mostar. He was a delightful travelling companion. He produced some of the most memorable images that have been seen on television.

Hulls was born in 1947 in London, and until the age of nine lived in Malaya. where his father worked for GEC. He was educated at Charterhouse Secondary Modern School and then at the Polytechnic, Regent Street, where he met a young iournalism student called Alison Campbell. He had no money. because he had soont his entire first term's grant on a cinecamera. She wasn't put off. They married in 1969, the year when, after many applications, he joined the BBC as a traince film editor.

He went freelance in 1976. That was the only way to be-come a cameraman. A Middle

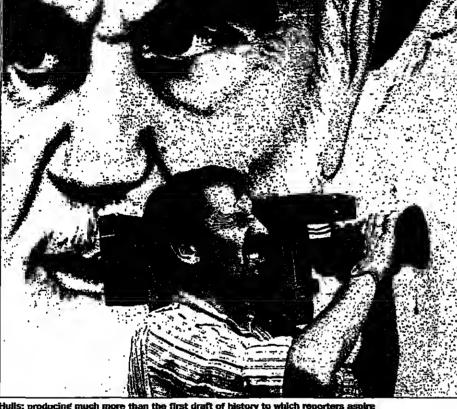
commissioned him to film and direct and he travelled all over the world. For a while he lived in Tehran as a field producer for the American network ABC. Then, after the fall of the Shah, he returned to the region to cover the Iran-Iraq war. Later in the Eighties, with a

young family, Hulls had a quieter life, basing himself in Somerset for the ITV company TSW. But the international news bug is hard to resist. He returned to the BBC in 1990. just before Saddam Hussein's troops invaded Kuwait. Brian Hulls was a quiet man.

If his colleagues were failing to live up to the high professional standards he set, he could be less than monosyttanic, i say him lose his cool only once, when a hapless newspaper reporter came between him and his craft. Just after the Iraqi invasion in 1990, we travelled to a dusty town on the Saudi Arabia-Kuwait border to meet a Walter Mitty-ish member of the Kuwaiti resistance. The reporter kept objecting to Hulls's moving around the room to get a full range of shots. After the masked Kuwaiti had left, Hulls turned on the scribbler. "When you write, do you use commas and full stops? Do you follow the rules of grammar? The shots I was getting were just as

important. And in case that was not clear enough, he offered to take the poor man outside to give him

a short, sharp introduction to the mysteries of television news. tmpatient reporters and producers who worked with Hulls were soon told that good pictures take time, even when the shells are getting a little too close and the building, or what's left of it, is starting to shake. He hated being rushed. He had real guts, but he never took stupid risks. He wore his helmet and flak jacker when less experienced men were swaggering around in shirtsleeves. He knew that war is dangerous (it is sur-



Hulls: producing much more than the first draft of history to which reporters aspire

he knew too that the only way to be really safe is to stay at

On the first night of the Gulf war Iraqi security guards prowled the corridors of the Hotel Rasheed in Baghdad, rounding up the foreign press and ushering them, none too politely, to the shelters. Hulls hid in some dark place until they had gone, then went back to work, filming the Allied air-raids until dawn. The pictures he shot that night went round the world. They were used recently in a major documentary series. No doubt they will be seen again and again in the years ahead. Cameramen like Brian Hulls produce much more than the first draft of history to which reporters are said to aspire. Future generations who want to know how history

looked and sounded will turn to

on Wentworth, second Marquis of

prising how many do not) but his work long after all the first there as the doctors prodrafts have been thrown away. Hulls was a photo-journalist

who never forgot that a suc-cessful day for those who work in war-zones was often the worst day, or the last day, for the people he saw. He would return to their families later without his camera, with presents and kind words. He never forgot that the people he was dealing with were human beings, which for some colleagues is the easiest way of dealing with the suffer-ing witnessed. One day during the siege of east Mostar he was filming while the town was being shelled. An elderly woman staggered out of the dust and smoke. Her home had been hit. With great sensitivity and professionalism Hulls kept on filming while her dying husband was loaded on to a fire-engine and driven to the charnel-house that served as a hospital. He was

nounced the man dead and as

his widow started to grieve. Afterwards he befriended the woman and explained why he had been there. On later trips to Mostar he brought a few things that she needed. She was louched beyond measure by his concern. She told me that her husband's death had not been in vain, because Hulls and his camera had been there to record what was happening to them and to the citizens of Bosnia-Hercegovina.

After his cancer was diagnosed Brian Hulls fought until the end. Nobody who knew him expected anything else. Jeremy Bowen

Brian Hulls, cameraman: born London 15 August 1947; married 1969 Alison Campbell (two daughters); died Clay Hidon, Devon 13 March 1996.

Ray Cline

Ray Cline was one of the Central Intelligence Agency's top analysts of the Soviet Union. Throughout his career he fought for the agency to concentrate more on "pure" intelligence and less on the covert operations run by its "Praeto-rian Guard", the "Directorate for Plans".

In 1956 Cline decided, correctly, that the text of Nikita Khrushchev's famous ."secretspeech" to the Soviet Communist Party's Twentieth Congress, which the agency had received from an Israeli source, was au-thentic and persuaded Allen Dulles, the Director of Central Intelligence (DCI), to publish it in the face of opposition from several of the agency's JUOT barous.

These men, among them James Jesus Angleton, head of Counter-Espionage, and Frank Wisner Snr, the Director for Plans, wanted to keep the secret speech secret, and leak out Khrushchev's revelations about Stalin's crimes a little at a time to encourage the anti-Soviet resistance in eastern Europe. Cline persuaded Allen Dulles that it would be wiser to make

the speech public. Cline's reward was to be chosen, along with James Billington, then a CIA official, now a distinguished historian and Librarian of Congress, to accompany him on an indis-creetly publicised world tour. One high point came when a Hong Kong tailor, summoned to make suits for a supposedly anonymous American, bowed deeply and said, "Thank you, Mr Dulles, for your custom!"

In 1965, when Dulles's successor, the industrialist John McCone, retired as the head of the CIA, Cline who was Deputy Director for Intelligence (DDI), was one of several serious candidates to take over as DCL

Perhaps partly for this reason, partly because he felt that the head of the Agency ought to be an intelligence professional, but mostly because he thought

he was an unintelligent and incompetent amateur, Cline tangled repeatedly with the man

who got the top job, Admiral
"Red" Raborn.
Cline, his colleague Richard
Helms recorded, "thought
Raborn was a horse's ass and he
didn't hesitate to say so". On
one occasion the admiral suddenly discovered that the Chinese were not getting on well with the Russians. Cline, who had known this for years and whose department had produced more detailed analysis on this than on any other single subject, could not contain his irritation. When Raborn asked
Cline to send over any studies he lad on Sino-Soviet relations, Cline asked acidly, "In a Maia to assassilate Fidel wheelbalrow?

After several bruising confrontations with Raborn, Cline asked for a foreign posting and became the CIA's bureau chief in Frankfurt. But he had the last word. He went to Clark Clifford, the powerful Washington lawyer and former Truman Administration official who was the head of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board and to McGeorge Bundy, his National Security Adviser, and insisted that Raborn must go. President Johnson agreed and replaced Raborn after only one year in office.

Although essentially an analyst, with great expertise on the Soviet Union, and committed to the importance of intelligence as opposed to covert action, Cline could take a robust line about the usefulness of action when he saw the need. In 1964 when the "Simba" rebels in Zaire were holding 1,000 prisoners, including Americans and Belgian nuns, Cline argued forcefully that the CIA should go in "like gangbusters".

In rapid succession he suggested "sending in a team through the jungle, bombing the city, a belicopter raid and a parachute drop". It was his opposite number Richard Helms, the Director for Plans and as such the 1966-69; Director, State Department's Burector, State Department Stat

cessfully counselled prience. Cline played an inportant role in the Cuban misile crisis of 1962. As well as his ling the President on his directrate's assessment of the risk for Soviet missiles which lad been secretly installed in he island. Cline studied repicts from American secret agots inside Cuba and personally debriefed Cuban refugees. Liter, in his book Secrets, Sples and Scholars (1977), he defended covert operations, arguing hat it was no different from scret assis-

covert action chief, the suc-

tance to countries friendly to the Lastro were justifii - "It was not illegical," he wrote, for the CIA o invite the Mafia to kill Cstro, since American organisch crime syndicates' "former Favana gamhling empire gavethem some

a gangland killing fould be unlikely to be attributed to the US government". From 1969 to 1973 he headed the State Department's Bureau of Intellignce and Re-search. Now beauted, he was a familiar figure is Washington men's clubs. After his retirement he worked on his book,

contacts to work wih, and since

one of the most houghtful accounts of secre intelligence work. Godrey Hodgson

Ray Steiner Cline, political sci-entist, writer: bym Anderson, Illinois 4 June 198; Director, US Naval Auxillary Communica-tions Centre, Tipei 1958-62; Deputy Director of Intelligence, CIA 1962-66; Secial Adviser to the American Embassy, Bonn 1966-69; Director, State Depart

Births, **Marriages** & Deaths

BIRTHS

CLARINGAOLD: On 7 March 1996, to Rachel thee Chambers) and Andrew, a daughter, Eleanor Pela. McWHIRTER: On 1 March 1996, in Philadelphia, to Maureen and Gracme, a son, Paul James, a brother for Sarah, Jain and Andrew

DEATHS

PARSONS: On 16 March, peacefully Olive, aged 104. Funeral, Thursday 21 March, Golders Green Crematorium at 3pm. Flowers, or donations to Annesty, Enquiries to Malcolm Jones & Metcalfe, (01442) 864548. SPRINGETT: Jack Allan, CBE MA, on

15 March 1996 aged 80, much loved and loving husband, father and grandfather. Funeral service and celebra-tion of his life on Tuesday 26 March, 11.15am at Chelmsford Cathedral. Family flowers only. Donations if de-sired for Action Aid, e.o. I. Pennack & Sons Funeral Directors, 1-3 Mai don Road, Great Baddow, Chelms-ford, Essex CM2 7DW.

For Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS, lelephone 017t-293 201 t.

Birthdays

Miss Ursuta Andress, actress, 60; Sir Nigel Broomfield, ambassador to Germany, 59; Miss Glenn Close, aciress, 49; Lady Georgina Coleridge, journalist, 80; Mr Peler Cotes, theatrical director and producer, 84; Pro-fessor Ronald Girdwood, former President, Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh. 79: The Right Rev Ronald Gordon, lormer Bishop of Lambeth, 69; Mr Bryan Hildrew, former managing director, Lloyd's Register of Shipping, 76; Vice-Admiral Sir Norman King, chairman, Bucks Health Authority, 63: Sir David Lumsden, former Principal, Royal Academy of Music, 68; Mr Paul Marland MP, 56; Sir Peter Masefield. aviation authority, 82; Mr Philip Mason, novelist, 90; Lord Plant of Highfield, Master, St Catherine's College, Oxford, 51; Lt-Gen Sir Alan Reay, Chief Honorary Steward, Westminster Abbey, 71; Sir Kenneth Robinson, former chairman, the Arts Council, 85; Mr Philip Roth. novelist, 63; Sir Leonard Scopes, former diplomat, 84; Mr Bruce Willis, actor, 41: Miss Mary Wimbush.

Anniversaries

Births: Georges de la Tour, painter, 1593; Tobias George Smollett, physician and author. 1721; Charles WalRockingham, statesman, 1730; Joah Bates, composer, 1741; Dr David Liv-ingstone, explorer and missionary, 1813; Sir Richard Francis Burton, scholar and explorer, 1821; William Allingham, poet. 1824; Albert Pinkham Ryder, painter, 1847; William Jennings Bryan, politician and speaker, 1860; Sergei Pavlovich Diaghilev. founder of the Diaghilev ballel company, 1872: Max Reger. teacher and composer, 1873; Sir John Hubert Marshall, archaeologist, 1876; Joseph Albers, abstract painter and poet, 1888. Deaths: Thomas Killigrew. playwright, 1683: Rette Robert Cavelier, Sieur de la Salle. explorer, murdered by his own men in Texas, 1687: Thomas William Doniell, landscape painter, 1840; Mary Anning, finder of the first lehthyosaurus fossil, t347; William Henry Playfair, architect, 1857; Friedrich Wilhelm Schadow-Godenhaus, painter, 1862: George Richmond, painter, 1896; Antoine-Thomson d'Abbadie, explorer and scientist, 1897; Arthur James Baltour. first Earl Balfour, statesman, 1930; Edgar Rice Burroughs, novelist and creator of "Tarzan". 1950; Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej, Romanian prime minister, 1965; Stephen Graham, travel writer, 1975; Faith Cuthrell Baldwin, romantic novelist, 1978; Alan Badel, actor, 1982. On this day:

The Rev John White formed the New England Company in Massachusetts Bay, 1628; the US Senate refused to ratify the Versailles Treaty and the League of Nations Covenant, 1920; the opera Faust by Gounod was performed for the first time, Paris, 1859; Sydney Harbour bridge was officially opened. 1932; following an internal dispute, British parachute troops took over the Caribbean island of Anguilla, 1969; Willy Brandt and Willi Stook, heads of West and East Germany, met for the first time at Er-furt, 1970. Today is the Feast Day of St Alemand, prince of Northu St John of Panaca, St Joseph thus-

Lectures

National Gallery: Alexander Sturgis, "Constable (iii): The Hay-Wain",

band of the Virgin) and SI Landoald.

Victoria and Albert Museum: Anna Contadini, "Islamic Tiles", 2.30pm. Tate Gallery: Rachel Barnes, "John Everen Millais: the Pre-Raphachle years and after", 1pm. National Portrait Gallery: Frances

Homan, "William Hogarth's Portrait ot William Jones", 1.10pm. Highgate Literary and Scientific In-stitution, London No: Robert Ponsonby, "The Pursuit of Music", Royal Society, London SW1: Pro-

fessor Steve Jones, "Has the Genetic Utopia Arrived?", 6pm. RIBA Architecture Centre, London Wt: Jo Noero, "Gauteng Architecture", 6.30pm University College London, London WC1: Professor Theo Hermans, Translation's Other", 5_30pm.

Luncheons

Foreign and Comme Sir Nicholas Bonsor Bt MP, Minis-ter of State for Foreign and Com-monwealth Affairs, hosted a lunch held yesterday at Lancaster House, London SW1. in honour of Mr Mihai Popov, Minister for Foreign Af-lairs of the Republic of Moldova. Corporation of London

The Lord Mayor of London, Mr John Chalstrey, and the Lady Mayoress Mrs Chaistrey, together with the Sheriffs and their ladies, received the guests at a luncheon held yesterday at the Mansion House, London EC1, on the occasion of the visit by Mr Ingmar Ingevik, Lord Mayor of Stockholm, and Mrs ingevik. Among those present were:

Mr Azel Weinerholm, First Vice-President of the Stockholm City Council, and Mrs Weinerholm; Mrs Ewn Torngren, Second Vice-President of the City Council, and Mr Staffan Torngren; Mr Lart-Ale Nidson, Ambassadur of Sweden, and Mrs Nilsson, Viscount Craigavon; Lord and Lady Mountevans; Lord

and Lady Porter of Luddenham; Mr Alan Beath MP: Ser John and Lady Ure; Sir William and Lady Young; Sir Jerry Wiggin MP and Ludy Wiggin.

Professor David O'Keefe, Director, Centre for the Law of the European Union, University College London, was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Royal Over-Seas League's Dission Circle held yesterday evening nt Over-Seas House, St James's, London SW1. His subject was "Current Issues of European Integration." Mrs Elizabeth Cresswell presided.

Recorders

The following have been appointed Recorders:

Recorders:

South Eastern Circula: David M. Beat; Inigo G. Bing Joseph John Boothby; Marie Therese Catterson; Sozanie Coules Rieran 2, Kooman CO; Patricia M.T. Dangor; Paul Dedgoot; Alan E. Greenwood; Sozan Hamilton OC; Walter Grareth Hawkesworth; Nigel R.W. Lambert; David A. Landau; Timothy J. Langdale OC; Humfrey J. Matins; Richard G.B. McCombe OC; Rodhey G. McKimton; Neil A. McKimtol; Jeffrey V. Pepdan; George F. Pulman OC; Redard J. Rundell; Christopher R.A. Sallon QC; Pamela Scriven OC; Aadrew C. Sonish OC; Christopher J. Smyth; Alan C. Stevnor; Michael A. Supperstone QC; Christopher J. Sutton-Mattocks: Nigel C. Van der Bijk Graham B.N. Whate; Judje E. Willers, Hazel E. Willemston OC; Alastan Wilson OC; Michael P. Yelton.
Wostern Chrenit Paul R. Barclay; Andrew J.

Barnett; Patrick R.J. Clarkson QC, Pani J.D. Coleridge QC, Mark Evans QC, Mark A. Evar-dil QC, Anthony Derwin Hope, James Rogeri Jarvis; Andrew H.R. Maistand: Christopher P. Mather, Claire M. Miskin.

Royal Over-Seas League Wills

Harold Arthur, first Viscount Watkinson, of Bosham, West Susser, Minister of Transport 1955-59, and Minister of Defence 1959-62, chairman of Cadbury Schweppes Ltd 1969-74, left estate valued at £265,996 net.

Geoffrey Noel, 12th Earl Walde-grave, of Chewton Mendip, Somer-set, former Lord Warden of the Stannaries, left estate valued at £2,084,263. He left £1,000 to St Mary Magdalene Church, Chewton Mendip.

Professor George Stanley Rush brooke, of Gosforth, Tyne and Wear, Professor of Theoretical Physics, Newcastle University 1951-80, left estate valued at £703,377 per After personal bequests of £5,000 and 30 of the residue, he left to of the residue equally between the University Development Trust of Newcastle University, Northumberland Wildlife Trust, St James United Reformed Church, Newcastle upon Tyne, and Christian Aid.

Dr Graham Ringer Faber, of Folkeie, Kent, left estate valued at £6:702,669 net.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

The Queen holds in investiture at Buckingham Palace. The Prince of Wales visits the Prince's Thist Residential Course at Pontial's Sand Hay Chales Hotel, Kewstoke, Avon; and a President, the Prince's Youth Business Brust, attends a Gala Concert at the Royal Albert Hall, London SW7. The Prince's of Wales, Parron, English National Ballst, attends a performance of Alice in Worlderland at the London SW7. The Princess Royal, President, British Knitting and Coliseum, London WC2. The Princess Royal, President, British Knitting and Cotting EuportCountil, vieits Rowies Plc, Loughborough, Leicestershire; as Patron, National Association of Calzens Advice Buream, opensenovated premises, Rutland Critizens Advice Buream, Opensenovated premises, Rutland Critizens Advice Buream, Cakham, Rutland, Leicestershire; as President, the Princess Royal Trust for Carens, visits Leicestershire Copens, Leicesters and as President, the Rural Housing Brust. December of the Motor Industry, and visits the trust's newly completed development or Long Whatton, Leicestershire, and visits the trust's newly completed development or Long Whatton, Leicestershire, and visits the trust's newly completed development or Long Whatton, Leicestershire, and visits the trust's newly completed development or Long Whatton, Leicestershire, and visits the trust's newly completed development or Long Whatton, Leicestershire, and visits the trust's newly completed development or Long Whatton, Leicestershire, and visits the trust's newly completed development or Long Whatton, Leicestershire, and visits the trust's newly completed development or Long Whatton, Leicestershire, and visits the trust's newly completed development or Long Whatton, Leicestershire, and visits the trust's newly completed development or Long Whatton, Leicestershire, and visits the trust's newly completed development or Long Whatton of Callo Concerton, Royal Festival Hall, London St. China et al. (United St.).

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

Changing of the Guard.
The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, Ham.

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Why the mafia is into your beef

The EU ban on growth hormones for cows has created a lucrative black market, reports Katharine Butler

It might seem an unlikely beyond them. A year ago horproduct for the mafia to be interested in. Drugs, sex and gambling are its usual terrain. But in Europe, particularly in Belgium, the mafia is into beef.

It is not the cows themselves that black marketeers are interested in so much as the hormone drugs that enhance meat production. The use of hormone drugs in meat production has been outlawed in the European Union since 1989. But that branket ban has helped to create a lucrative and wellorganised black market.

The organised criminal rings that control this trade are prepared to go to disturbing lengths to circumvent the ban. Mnrder; for a start, is not door.

mone dealers put out a con-tract on Karel Van Noppen, a 43-year-old Belgian government vet and chief meat inspector who led a relentless crusade to stamp out hormone

His widow Mieke recalls the death threats, the phone calls in the night, the warnings to ease off. "I did not try to stop him. It was his whole life, I knew he would not stop" she says.

Van Noppen's associates

believe he was close to unmasking the masterminds of a network spanning Belgium and Holland and probably extending into France when he was silenced. He was shot at close range just yards from his front

Van Noppen was not alone. Another Belgian vet had his front door peppered with bul-lets. An MEP who has campaigned against the hormone trade has had a petrol bomb and a hand grenade hurled at him. Other vets have been

beaten up. Hormone dealing is thought to be the second most lucrative organised crime racket in Belgium after drugs.

Hormone compounds are relatively easy to manufacture. When injected into animal muscle to artificially stimulate growth, hormones can yield increases in profits for intensive producers by large margins, anything from 10 per cent to more than double the normal profit of about £100 per animal.

The Belgian authorities market chains are increasingly reacted to the murder by turning to organic producers putting in place tougher controls, spot checks on farms and at abattoirs, and setting up a dedicated police unit to attack the mafia . A new law has brought in fines of up to

But the killers have not been traced and the Belgian agricul-ture minister, Karel Pinxten. admitted recently that the mafia 's "hard core" is as active as ever.

Consumer groups, spurred by a wave of public revulsion following the Van Noppen murder, have been monitoring meat in the shops and claim that as much as 25 per cent of beef on sale contains hormone residues. Butchers and super- Fanning's meat plant were

or suppliers able to guarantee hormone-free meat.

Public concern has also been mounting in Ireland, which is believed to be a key target for drug dealers operating out of Belgium and Holland. In 1992 the Irish police

seized a large quantity of banned growth hormones when they raided the home of a senior official in the Irish Department of Agriculture. Just last month a Tipperary cattle dealer. Danny Finning, was shot, possibly by an IRA punishment squad, for trading in clenbuterol, the so-called "angel dust". Fleven cattle in

found with traces of the drug in their bodies. Peter Dargan. a former president of the Irish Veterinary Union, triggered alarm recently with a damaging claim that a quarter of

Irish beef cattle is illegally hormone treated. The claim was emphatically denied by the Irish government, which says its controls show the figure is only around 3 per cent. But privately officials admit that the oattle against purveyors of cocktails like "angel dust" and "jungle juice" is a long way from being won. despite harsh penalties ranging from fines of £100 000 to year juil terms.

We believe the mafia is small but it is effective. And you will always find a minority of

producers ready to take the risk," said one Irish official.

Some critics of the EU ban. reconfirmed and tightened by agriculture ministers yesterday despite British objections, argue that Brussels, by choosing to go against the scientific evidence, is playing into the hands of the illegal drug dealers by driving the trade underground.

Hormones are permitted in the United States. Canada. Australia and New Zealand, so inevitably some European producers believe they can compele better with the help of anabolic steroids or similar substances.

Consumers could be at even greater risk, the argument

hormones are using unsupervised cocktails. They are also injecting them directly into the flesh of the beast to avoid detection, whereas formerly they might have been concentrated in the ear or animal parts not destined for human consumption.

Some veterinary medicines that are legal for treating respiratory conditions in horses and pels are also being abused as cattle growth oromoters. Scientists agree that residues of these substances could pose alarming risks for human health but are now wondering if the malia would find a market for them if the "safe" steroid hormones like oestradiol and progesterone were

The making of a modern beef machine: how hormones make cows grow fatter



What are growth promoters?

In 1980, an Italian school boy allegedly started to grow breasts after eating year that contained a synthetic normone, distribustiblestrol, which had been given to cattle to promote weight gain and increase the proportion of lean muscle. At the time of the scandal there were few controls on the use of hormone growth promoters in cattle within the EC. Within a year, the stilbenes and stilbene derivatives were banned throughout the EC but there was no agreement on five other homones. Three of them are already naturally present in cattle: pestradiol, progesterone, and testosterone; while two trenbolone and zeranol are synthetic. analogues of the natural hormones.

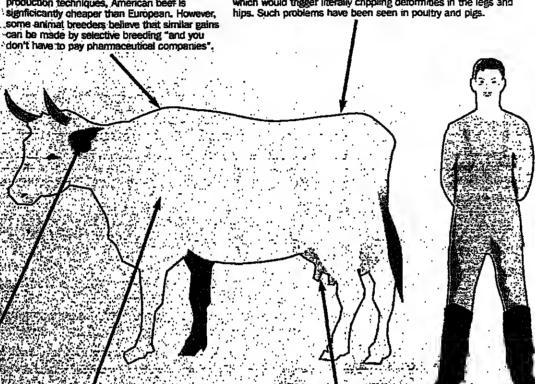
. The drugs fall into the same general class as the anabolic steroids whose human analogues have been abused by bodybuilders. The bovine equivalents increase the efficiency with which cattle converted feed to muscle. Because different countries were regulating the use of growth promoters differently, the Council of Agriculture Ministers decided in 1988 to ban all growth promoters completely. The EC also banned the import of meat produced by the prohibited method. In 1995. the Gatt Uniguay Round was finally implemented and the United States. announced that it would regard the Elirobean Union ban as a burder to made

Farmers (not vets) use an injection gun with a needle inserted into the cartiledge at the base of the ear, and press the trigger to expell a small pellet into the ear.

The pellet then acts as a slow release patch

rather like some long-acting human ... contraceptives — allowing a small amount of the homone to enter the animal's bloodstream continually over subsequent months.

Farmers estimate that they can get a 10 per cent increase in the efficiency with which the cows convert their feed into muscle (meat). As a result of the use of hormones and massproduction techniques, American beef is significicantly cheaper than European. However, some animal breeders believe that similar gains Animal welfare organisations maintain that selective breeding has already pushed farm animals close to their physiological limits. They warn that the animals' skeletons will not keep pace with the accelerated growth provoked by injections of hormones which would trigger Interally coppling deformines in the legs and



Injections of bovine growth hormone produced by genetic engineering have been proposed as a means of increasing milk production. Although this is not the subject of the cun controversy, it is another area in which the EU and the US are out of step. Growth hormone is also naturally produced by the cows, and so any residues in the are reports of increased mastitis (infections of the

would be indistinguishable from the real thing. But there udder) in cows where the injections have been used on



The chunk of meat Consumers and health officials were worned

that residues of the hormones might be present in meat after slaughter, with consequent health effects, including the possible "masculinising" of women who ate meat containing stosterone residues. Even before the Italian health scare, there had been accounts of butchers fathering more sons than average as a result of their exposure to hormones. But in 1982 a Scientific Working Group under the charmanship of professor Enc Lamming of Nottingham University, reported to the European Commission that the three natural hormones would not present any harmful

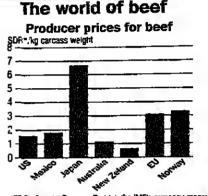
as growth promoters. The risks to consumers are difficult to establish but do not seem to be great. Never the less Dr Chns Brown, beef strategy manager for the UK's Meat and Livestock Commission, says: "We are not talking about doubling or quadrupling an animal's weight. But producers are conscious of the 'what is the consumer going to say about this?' factor. If we can't sell it to the consumers, then there is not going to be the drive for it. At the end of

the day, political considerations are going to

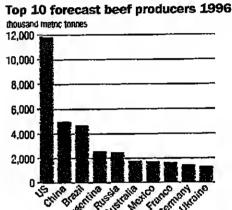
effects to the health of consumers when used

The farmers

The administration even of powerful drugs that are neatly packaged as slow release injectable pellets is unlikely to cause an occupational health and safety risk to farmers. However, there are reports of some European farmers adding growth promoters illegally to feed and leading to death in a couple of cases. This appears not to be a problem with the hormones but with the powerful drug clenbuterol - a 'beta-blocker" that can cause severe heart problems. There is evidence of a lucrative black market in Ireland and continental Europe for this particular drug.



*SDR: Special Drawing Rights, the IMP's currency measure, based on a basket of the US, German, Franch,



Exporters of beef to EU Non-EU Europe Africa 150,000 **a** Oceania

Dr Ruth on sex and the sabbath Dr Ruth Westheimer, the New York

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University professor best known for doling out sex therapy with lashings of chntzpah on her television show (below), has turned her attention to the Jewish sabbath. It

is, she tells the forthcoming edition of the Jewish Quarterly magazine, "by design a deeply erotic expe-For those who may have missed

this association explains: "Making love on Friday night is a specific celebration of the unity of God's masculine and feminine aspects Almost every custom of the Jewish sabbath observance facilitates our goal of lighting each other's fire and becoming entwined.... The lovers dine by candlelight. The meal begins with the sharing of wine ... When they are ready to go to bed, the lovers almost can't help

but do so in a highly seductive and seduceable state of mind." Dinner by candlelight, bands touching over the sabbath bread; how unromantic of Dr Ruth's female interviewer to interject: "I don't quite see how Sabbath can be erotic. On Friday night, I

see a very tired Jewish woman." Perhaps that tired woman has been taking Dr Ruth's philosophy to

Lightweight approach to crime policy

As the editor of the Guardian has endeavoured to repair that newspaper's reputation for misprints, I must assume that its report yesterday of the Lib Dems' spring conference is accurate, and we can expect an Orwellian police state if Paddy Ashdown comes to power. Those weighing in under 10 stone will be afraid to walk the streets in daylight hours. What other construction can I

The heart

animals" cardiovascular systems, according to

Compassion in World Farming.

Text by Tom Wilkie

thinner but ignore the thin".

Poor Jack Cunningham, Labour's

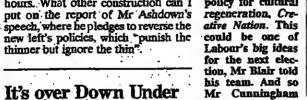
shadow heritage secretary, is having to burn the midnight oil rewriting the rewrite of his party's arts manifesto.

The first rewrite occurred after his

leader Touy Blair visited Australia and

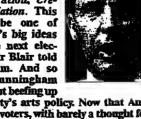
was much taken with the then Prime

put on the report of Mr Ashdown's

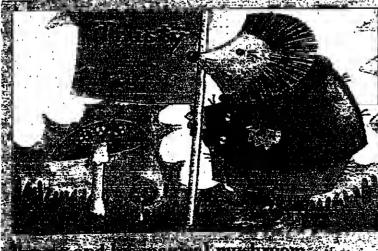


Keating's 101-page policy for cultural regeneration, Cre-Labour's big ideas for the next election, Mr Blair told his team. And so Mr Cunningham set about beefing up

Minister,



the party's arts policy. Now that Ans tralia's voters, with barely a thought for Mr Blair or Mr Cunningham, have swept Mr Keating (above) from office, our own Labour Party has decided that a policy associated with yesterday's man might not be such a good idea.



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A heavenly way to go, pop-pickers ...

I doubt that Led Zeppelin intended the title of their classic rock song "Stairway To Heaven" to be taken quite as literally as the disc jockey Alan Freeman seems to have taken it. Sixty-eight-year-old Freeman, just two years away from being radio's first septuagenarian pop broadcaster, told BBC's Pebble Mill how he would like to make his final broadcast.

"I would like to think I can go on perhaps for another couple of years, and possibly have a fatal heart attack and go just like that, while I'm playing "Stairway To Heaven". I think that would be wonderful."

Unfortunately, face has a habit of not granting us our dearest wishes. Beware a coronary mid-way between Kylie Minogue and the weather

Screening out violence

Among the welter of "violence in society" articles that have followed Dunblane, I was interested to see Andrew Neil in the Sunday Times sounding off against violent films on television. He writes: "The violence on British television is less graphic than in the cinema though the Hollywood 'splatter movies' shown at night on satellite television are a disgrace that no self-respecting adults should watch, much less let their children near."

Quite. I urge that he takes the matter up with the founding chief executive of Sky TV, Mr Andrew Neil.

Unhealthy eating

This sign spotted ontside a charcuterie in Brussels may not help your appetite: "Buy British Beef here and you won't get

Eagle Eye



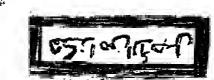
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V-rated violence

From 1998, new American television sets will have to be fitted with a chip that should allow parents to censor programmes marked in advance by broadcasters according to a ratings system. The V-chip, as it has been christened, is now heing promoted nearer home. The European Parliament has declared in its favour. The National Heritage Secretary. Virginia Bottomley, said yesterday she wants to evaluate it in the wake of the Dunblane killings. The maverick Liberal Democrat MP David Alton is threatening to amend broadcasting legislation unless she is quick about it.

This is a thorny area. Establishing the precise link between violence on television and violent behaviour is difficult. Even if we accept that there is a link, establishing a consensus on a ratings system would be tortuous. Agreement might be possible on the extremities of fictional violence, but then some of the most violent and horrifying films - Seven, for instance - do not show acts of violence, just some of the results. Beyond that, agreeing on acceptable standards of swearing and sex would be even more difficult.

Even more problematic is the way a V-chip would be quickly outflanked by technology and children's adeptness at using it. The technology of communica-tions cannot be controlled. It respects no national boundaries, social codes or generational precedence. Young children can programme videos and dial up Web

pages at the outer limits of the World Wide Web with a skill that leaves adults in their wake. The new American law is already out of date. It may not cover the television eards that can turn a desktop computer into a television receiver, it does not cover the way television pictures are becoming available over the Internet.

But none of this excuses fatalism. It is adults who pay for their children's surf-ing babits on the Internet. Adults read Radio Times. It is adults who need to think more clearly about what is fit for viewing or downloading. Welcome efforts are already being made to make exploration of the Internet safer for children by using "system invigilators" that patrol the boundaries of zones which parents might judge unsuitable for children. As for television, the V-chip can only

be "another tool" in parents' hands, as Lady Howe of the Broadcasting Standards Council put it. It cannot substitute for the time and effort good media parenting require. What it ought to do, however, is open up a debate and help us to refine our thinking about suitability. about the kinds of violence that young viewers ought to be exposed to.

The V-chip only works if broadcasters have agreed a ratings system. One is needed, and one a lot more sophisticated than the existing 9pm "watershed" or the system cinema and video distributors use. That is going to be difficult, but it is high time a start is made.

Tightening the net

Tongratulations to Emma Bonino, for putting her head in the Cornish fishermen's den. The European fisheries commissioner's willingness to mend the EU's nets in public is a model other senior Brussels officials should follow. She made few converts on the quayside in Newlyn. But she said three things that are, broadly speaking, true, First, the EU needs a Common Fisheries Policy (CFP): second, it is in the interests of British fishermen to belong to it; third, the present policy has failed and needs to he reworked.

We need a European policy because fish wander. There is no point in pro-teeting the adults in British waters if the piscine children and tecnagers are heing massacred in, say, Dutch waters. Purely national solutions do not work. The CFP is hased on supposedly scientific limits on the number of fish that can be caught. The permitted annual catch is divided into those fleets is not restricted. In theory, at least, the least productive hoats in a ness and the industry should find its equi- communities.

lihrium, with just enough boats catching just enough fish.

However, in practice, that does not happen. Governments pander to fisher-men and inflate the catch levels recom-mended by the scientists. The policing of quotas and net sizes bas been inadequate. British fishermen were rightly incensed by the recent European Court decision allowing member states to poach each other's quotas by registering fishing vessels in other countries ("quota-hopping"). This makes sense under single market ules, but it blows the CFP apart.

As a result of loopholes such as this. Europe has too many boats chasing too few fish. A more effective solution would be to impose a much stricter system of licensing on boats to restrict the size of fleets. This could be combined with a market to auction and then trade the licenses. This mixture of EU quota setting and market trading for licenses would he much more effective in preserving list stocks and managing a more orderly contraction of the industry, thereby helping national fleet should be driven out of husi- 10 limit the damage to traditional fishing

Pretty vacant, Pistols

Bill Grundy would be a happy man today. It was Grundy who made the Sex Pistols famous in December 1976. He interviewed them on a teatime television news magazine. They scowled and swore and despised him. His affronted impotence in the face of their disdain symbolised the shock felt by a generation of parents at the arrival of punk.

Were it not for the evident discomfort all those safety pins and ripped jeans caused the older generation, musically mediocre punk may never have taken off. But in part thanks to Grandy's evident displeasure it was irresistible for many young people. If you could shock your parents that much, it had to be worth doing.

Now the Sex Pistols are back, without the sadiv departed Sid Vicious. You might think Grundy would be turning in bis

Did you know that there is a mid-Channel language half-way

between France and England which

is a mixture of French and English?

No. it is not Franglais - indeed, it

is as far from Franglais as it is pos-

sible to get, being invented by and approved of by the French.

received a letter with a French

postmark the other day from the Marquise de MacMahon, a lady of

whose existence I had been unaware

until that moment, It was in no

sense a personal letter, as she seems

blissfully unaware of my existence

outside a mailing list and merely

wants me to huy some of her wines

by mail order. In fact, the letter

started with the most impersonal

opening possible, namely *Dear

"Dear Sir. dear Madame, The

earth slowly comes to life again, the

green spikes of our daffodils show

streaks of yellow, the vines are 'cry-

ing from their final pruning. Sym-

bolic for a religious Easter, with all

nature bursting with new energy and

year of the Rat, a year that promises

prosperity. I hope this includes grape harvests! The 1996 vintage is

We are moving into the Chinese

promise for the year ahead.

Let me quote some more.

Sir. dear Madame".

Let me put it another way. I

grave. But you'd be wrong. The Sex Pistols are back because they are sad, middle-aged entertainers in need of a fast huck and all too happy to exploit the commercial opportunism of a record industry that 20 years ago they led a generation to believe they disdained. At least the Rolling Stones and Status

Quo have never made any pretence of their commercialism. That is part of what makes them such good acts. But the Sex Pistols? Can you imagine all those clashing chords, tuneless songs and pretentious words from people old enough to have negative equity, kids in private schools and personal pensions. They'll probably turn up to the gigs in Volvos.

No. this is Bill Grundy's revenge. For the Sex Pistols have returned as Bill Grundy; well, almost.

already formed within the eight

tiny buds along each pruned vine

springs we have been having these

past few years do not help climinate

the various nasty creepy-crawlies

or fungi that menace our vineyards.

Fortunately, vignerons are inspired

by the eternal cycle of hope and faith

inherent in any kind of agriculture:

every year the crop is going to make the hest millesime this century!"

full savours and nose to develop.

Don't ice the bottles, just hring them

straight up from your unheated cel-

lar or pantry, uncork, and, as they say

in the southern US. Enjoy! Order

now and stock up for all those spring

festivities, Easter egg-hunt lunches.

god-daughters confirmations.

nephews weddings Or just relax

after a hard morning digging the

"Air the wines a little to allow the

"The warm wet winters and

The truth ... or the French translation

Burgundy...

left untranslated.



- LETTERS TO THE EDITOR -

protect women and children from

the depradations of psychopathic

males. The response might begin with an immediate crackdown on

child pornography and a severe drawing-in of the boundaries of

what is acceptable in adult

pernography. Those who commit

sexual offences against women and children should face harsh

and long sentences commensu-rate with the damage which they

"Police told the Scottish Sec-

not have enough evidence to

tragedy (15 March) 1

paragraphs.

prosecute."

Dr JS CALLENDER

MICHAEL GREEN

JOHN CRISP

London SW1

Save Baltics from

Sir: The present discussion on spheres of influence in Europe

" 'Silk Curtam' cuts Europe in

two once more", 16 March) strikes the Baltic states with bor-

for and trepidation. Under no

circumstances should the West

democratic elements in Russia to

demand further increases in their

It is not Russia's prerogative to

dictate to nations how they

should evolve and it would be

much better for her to seek solu-

tions to her own deep internal

Between the wars, at the time

of their independence, the Baltic

peoples achieved remarkable

prosperity, which was lost during

Soviet rule. They must have the

right to decide on their own

whether or not to join the EU or

Post letters to Letters to the

293 2056; e-mail: letters@

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be edited for length and clarity.

PETERIS TERMANIS

London SW16

sphere of influence.

problems.

Russian power

After Dunblane: questions for the media | New jobs for old NHS chiefs and an answer to critics of gun clubs

every minute detail of the Dunblane tragedy emblazoned across numerous pages of our newspapers? Others may be desensitised enough to cope with every grue-some detail. I struggle simply with the bare facts.

Every child I see I worry about. I have refused to watch TV programmes whose theme is murder, shooting and violence, for how can I watch these "entertain-ments" when families in Dunblane are living through the real-

Are you reporting responsibly? Or are you indulging in a journalism which lowers itself to sensationalising violence in a society which already encourages people to fill their minds with these

> KATHRYN WIGGINS Reading, Berkshire

Sir: The horror at Dunhlane seems a prime example of an event where there is tension est in the circumstances and the right to privacy of those caught up in the tragedy.
On such occasions would it

not be feasible for the media lo agree to pooling arrangements ever be. wherehy the news-gathering was shared, reducing to a reasonable minimum the numbers of visiting journalists and photographers?

BERNARD PAYNE

Chester

Sir: I am shocked by Dr Jane Fairweather's letter (16 March). Opening your paper on Thursday morning and seeing those rows of happy faces brought home to me the full horror of this monstrous act as nothing else could have done. I broke down and wept. One cannot comprehend the grief the berieved families are going through, I cannot believe could have caused any more stress than they are already

herbaceous border with a well

deserved glass of delicious

is written is one that no English per-

son on earth has ever written or spo-

ken. It is translator's English, a lan-guage that is so tied to the language

of origin that a perceptive reader could immediately identify which

foreign language is being trans-lated from, even if words such as

vieneron and millésime had not been

This letter from the Marquise is,

heyond any doubt, a literal transla-

tion from French. Only the French

can so easily go into overdrive in the first sentence of a letter. The earth slowly comes to life again, the green

spikes of our daffodils show streaks

of yellow, the vines are 'crying'

from their final pruning.

In English it sounds ridiculous.

but in French it sounds impressively

orotund and semi-poetical. Or, to

this letter is that it has been trans-

lated, not by a native English-

never say that insects are "menae-

ing" our vineyards. "Menacer" is the

common word in French, but in

speaker, but by a French person.

Of course, what is obvious about

A native English-speaker would

put it another way, ridiculous.

The language in which this letter

Sir. Do we really need to have Sir. Perhaps before condemning of impeccable respectability. the shooting sports, people should attend a match, and see It seems likely that Thomas Hamilton was a paedophile what shooting is really about. whose depraved lusts grew in They will see none of the likes of strength over many years. In Thomas Hamilton, just ordinary many individuals of this sort. Thomas Hamilton, just ordinary citizens having an enjoyable day out. One of the first things they such desires and the capacity to exploit others are fed by a diet of will observe is the strict safety degrading pornography.

The events in Dunblane highrules, and the responsibility and light our widespread failure to

care every shooter displays to those around him or her. Shooting is one of the least aggressive sports. It does not promote the use of physical force towards any person. Men and women can compete on equal terms, and people have been known to continue competing well into their seventies.

Shooting teaches children attentiveness, and respect for rules and other people. An 18th-century Swiss writer described shooting events as "a school of

morals for the young". What happened at Dunblane was tragic, but in a society where Sir: From different reports in people are presumed innocent, your coverage of the Dunhlane gerous individuals on the streets. In our helplessness, we try to alleviate our desperation by looking for someone or something to blame. That is all gun control will

PHILIP COOK

Sir. Amid the shock generated by the Dunhlane killings, we should not make the mistake of seeing prebensible evil.

tal health services are faced daily with patients whose problems have their origins in cruelty and sexual exploitation experienced in childhood. Tune and again. one hears stories of appalling, remorseless abuse. Childhoods are destroyed and adult survivors carry a bitter legacy of pain, betrayal guilt, loss of self-worth that your photograph of class PI and repression, in some, the emotional consequences are intolerable and the result is death by suicide. Such evil takes place JOHN BAKER every day in every part of this London SW13 country, often behind facades

English "threaten" is the common

word and "menace" is slightly archaic. Nor, I think, would we use

a jokey word like "creepy-crawly",

nor would we say that furmers "are

inspired by the eternal cycle of hope and faith. Nor would we

leave untranslated words such as

"vigneron" and "millesime". A

rigneron is a wine-grower, so why

not say so? Does it sound more

what a "millesime" is, but I have to

admit that I didn't know the word.

So I looked it up. And it means

"the year of manufacture" or "vin-tage". The French don't have a

word as generally useful as our vin-tage. Our word "vintage" obvi-

ously covers everything covered in

French by different words like

"cni" and "millesime" and "année

de belle récolte" but the French

don't know this, so they prefer to

use their own word "millesinte"

even though we don't know what it

lish translation of the original

French would go like this: Dear

customer, Well, spring is here again

and with any luck we'll have a good

harvest this year, so I am enclosing

our list of this year's prices ..."

Put it another way. A proper Eng-

means.

And it is assumed that we know

impressive in French?

these as a rare eruption of incom-

"Last year, Central Scotland Police gave Hamilton a firearms Thornton Heath, Surrey certificate for a 9mm pistol and

a 375 revolver, and at the same time, authorised him to buy two more similar weapons." Is this the same police? Those of us who work in men-Wokingham, Berkshire

Sir: I was disgusted to read in Colin Brown's report (16 March) that "senior Conservative Party figures were dismayed at John Major's joint visit with Tony Blair to the area [Dunblane]" and that Conservative sources were furi-ous because they felt it gave Mr Blair a political bonus". Can these Conservatives be named, so that they may be for ever vilified by decent British citizens of all parties?

Sir: I see that we, the taxpavers, can expect a hill approaching film for buying surplus senior. NHS executives out of their contracts. Surely there is a better

One possibility is some form of training, to equip them to do a better managerial job in future in the NHS. Ideally I would suggest they work out their contracts as hospital porters - a post from which they will see the realities of the NHS with new eyes. Sadly, they would probably argue that this constitutes constructive

Alternatively, they should be

formed into a committee with the remit of negotiating for people in their position to leave the NHS with no more than six

months' pay in lieu of notice. They would be dealing with their peers, and could hardly deny that this is a challenging task. It should be clearly understood that failure to reach such an agreement within three months would be indicative of incompetence to hold office at their level, and render them hable for dismissal without notice.

Dr. A M HULME

No point in technology at school

Sir Mike Heath Director General of the Engineering Council, engineering disciplines is science believes that teaching technology and mathematics. Until adequate in Britain's schools will improve our engineering base, on which he feels our economy depends (Letters, 16 March).

looming crisis in the health ser- vocational teaching is in colleges of GPs. Does Mr. Heath feel we should be teaching our children how to diagnose illness and pre-scribe treatments? retary privately that they had concerns over Hamilton, but did

As an engineer myself, I know

that the foundation of all the standards in these subjects are achieved in our schools it is absurd to attempt to teach children the vocational subjects that I understand that there is a depend on them. The place for not succeed unless students arrive from the school system ade-

quately prepared. ian Quayle Helenshurgh, Strathelyde

One nation in front of the TV

Sir: Jeffrey Richards asserts ("BBC's voice of two nations", 13 March) that the success of two apparently different BBC dramas, the gritty Our Friends in the North and the romantic Pride and Prejudice points to a country with polarised tastes and attitudes. He looks back to the Fifties and a Reithian BBC which "cemented the nation with a unitary voice".

. It is not far-fetched to maintain that a broadcasting monopoly could happily bond a class-ridden society made up of avaricious consumers, jealous trade unionists and angry teddy-boys? The Fifties reality, of course, was an unhappy compromise of viewers completely unspoilt for choice and sitting around what were often BBC-only television sets watching pro-

Were the audience profiles for Our Friends and Pride and Prejudice that different? Both were historical dramas; one began with sex and the promise of more to come, the other captivated viewers with the eventuality of sex. I suggest that far more viewers than Professor Richards might imagine were riveted to both.

grammes of little interest.

Train beats car

agree to the creation of any arti-ficial boundaries in Europe to GEORGE FISHER Broughton, Cumbria placate Russia's military. This would only encourage the non-

Sir. For some twenty-five years as commuter I have driven the 20 miles to central London and each year the queues get longer and the serious incidems more regular and it becomes necessary to leave that few minutes earlier to avold this distance taking up to an hour and a half.

Until now. I have discovered the train, a fast and efficient chariot galloping across the countryside and trotting through the suburbs to decant me within the Square Mile unflustered and content.

The only drawback is the expense. Even against my thirsty limousine, it is more than twice the cost. There must be a case for the Government to subsidise public transport, to help the environment and massage our tempers.

Broxbourne, Hertfordshire

Employment law out of date

Sir: Dr John McMullen is right to remind us that unfair dismissal protection was introduced to offer people a "civilised" way of dealing with a problem, rather than through industrial action ("Size really doesn't matter to workers", 13 March):

Removing employment rights from millions of people cannot be the best way of relieving job inse-curity, or producing a "feel-good factor". The consequences for social cohesion, when firms are able to generate rising profits with fewer people, have not yet been fully explored. Working arrangements are increasingly so diverse and flexible that the time has clearly come for a fundamental review of employment legislation.

TONY MORGAN Chief Executive The Industrial Society. London WI

Fighting flab?

Sir. Your report on the "disease" of obesity (13 March) describes the Body Mass Index (weight in kilos divided by beight in metres squared) and says a person with an index over 25 is considered overweight, and over 30 obese. For the Bruno/fyson fight on

Saturday, Bruno weighed in at 111 kilos with n height of 1.91 metres - an index of 30.43. Tyson, too, has an index above 30. Are these superh atbletes obese? Clearly other factors are important in making medical judgements about body weight.

CHARLES LOVING Newport, Isle of Wight

Reclaim cities

Sir: Our town and city centres already have too many shops and offices ("The one-stop shop, per comes one step closer". March). The current business exodus gives an excellent opportunity to return the centres to Their proper role - a place for . people to live, not just to visit between 9am and 5pm.

LEN PARRICK

All Care 2.00

and

-- --

Turning &

News flash: an interesting political speech was made at the weekend. Deflating second flash: it was made by Paddy Ashdown. This is deflating not because Ashdown is a secondary figure at Westminster, though he is, but because he has made some interesting speeches before; indeed, being "interesting" is one of the Liberal Democ-

rat leader's more dangerous hobbies. He is treated atrociously by the political élite - mocked, succred at, never taken seriously. The other parties regard him as "pious", by which they mean outspoken, disdainful and insufficiently respectful of their authority.

And indeed, he is in many ways more like a political commentator than a politician except that he, unlike us, goes round the country talking to people. He saturates himself in the anti-Westminster atmosphere. His wife once told me that she had been rung up late at night by the Liverpool police to warn her that: somebody was impersonating her husband, loitering m a dangerous and drug-infested area of the city with a crowd of Rastafarians. "That's my Paddy," she instantly replied.
But his very isolation from the

main currents of Westminster has enabled Ashdown to think widely and speak with rare freedom. His weekend speech was typical of his best in being thought through, vivid, provocative and even, in key parts, plausible (thus breaking every important rule of contemporary political rhetoric).

Briefly put, it started with the familiar thought that globalisation and individualism had between them changed our world. The old model of politics, by which "governments could, by and

large, deliver what their people wanted; and so people, by and large, believed in government" was being destroyed. But, whereas most politicians adopt

a mouraful or reactionary posture when confronting this thought, Ashdown sounded positively chipper: "The age of deference, if not quite dead, is dying on its feet. And the age of the individual is coming along famously. We're seeing the beginning of the end of the politics of class and nation."

The Conservatives, he said, were responding to globalisation by trying to make Britain ever more free-market, a smaller version of the United States, with its ghettos and widening social rifts. Labour was trying to create a new "state-sponsored moralityto rebuild Britain in the image of Singapore". The real answer, however, was a politics based round "self-reliant individuals", a politics of education, reform and tolerance.

Thus far, the speech pursued traditional Liberal tactics, painting the two big parties as extreme, and proposing a "sensible" middle-of-the-road alternative. However, when Ash-down listed the policies his individualist party was actually committed to, they sounded identical to new Labour's. On education, support for small business, long-term investment, welfare reform, constitutional change, this was a speech that could have been made by Tony Blair.

It was only when he turned to morality and power that Ashdown sounded a truly different note, laying savagely into Jack Straw's censorious approach to idlers, sturdy beggars and other undesirables.



Ashdown seems intent on becoming 'differently popular'

The emphasis on people's responstibilities, rather than their rights, begins well enough, he said. "But it ends by telling people how to live their lives - by limiting freedom of speech. by spot times for chewing gum and neglecting to pull the tavatory chain. It ends in policies which punish the sinner but ignore the sin.'

Attacking new Labour's illiberal streak would be less impressive, had Ashdown not marked his party out by taking some brave specific stands notably on gays in the military. This is unlikely to do him any electoral good. But, as on drugs, censorship, civil lib-erties and other issues, the Liberal Democrats here show themselves gen-

uinely principled.

We don't yet have a word for it, but there is a code that reverses some traditional teaching, yet is clear and principled itself. It abhors homophobia rather than homosexuality, It

ferences, Hell and sin that underpin summarised as "the Lib Dems equal Judeo-Christian teaching. It is "liberal" in a way that owes more to Bloomsbury and Martin Luther King than Gladstone or Adam Smith.

More than economics, voting reform or localism this provides the core belief-system of the Liberal Democrats. Ashdown spoke of a society that would "encourage diversity ... accommodate different lifestyles ... be heedless of gender or sexual orientation. It will celebrate experimentation. And it will value pluralism and the wide richness of ethnic traditions and cultures in Britain today." New Labour would agree, in principle, vet never use those words. That is not the enthusiasm of the communitarians and social moralists of the left, search-

ing for security in a turbulent world. There is an important division open-ing in politics between individualism and community, between freedom and security, between those who stress rights and those who stress duty. It is not a normal left-right division. It zig-zags through the Labour Party and through the Conservatives. Both have libertarians and moralists in their ranks.

It fractures the uncommitted majority of thinking society, too. It is very much a thing of our uncertain, harassed times. It could be caricatured as the division between people who enjoy Tarantino films and people who worry about them, or between natural born rebels and natural magistrates, And the rehels have cast Blair and

Jack Straw as the villains of the drama. puritans whose instincts are as authoritarian as Oliver Cromwell's. At one

rejects beliefs about women, racial dif- level. Ashdown's speech could be Labour minus Straw

In fact, both Straw and new Labour generally are about much more than populism. There is a wider yearning for security, order and greater socia trust that is felt on the streets and preached by economists, think-tanks and intellectuals. It is not the centrally imposed morality that Ashdown attacks, but it certainly is a response to his twin forces of globalisation and individualism.

And the Liberal Democrats are against it. After their Nottingham conference they look ever more like the libertarian party in British politics. This is probably a niche market, but it is a very important niche for someone to stand in.

As a hit of a puritan myself, I am glad that Ashdown is standing there. We are undergoing that dreary narrowing of the political agenda that precedes a general election and he is a cheering addition to the game. At least some of what he says doesn't seem calculated for party advantage, Indeed, after Nottingham, he seems intent on becoming, in the appropriate jargon of political correctness, "differently popular".

And if a Labour government ever was dependent on Ashdown voies, we know what sort of influence he'd aspire to be - in the darkest watches of the night and the darkest corners of Whitehall he would be a safeguard against illiberalism or authoritarianism. These days, the Labour left worries desperately about the prospect of having to share power with the Lib-

because they are so contemporary, they refer to the Nineties sense of

being part of yet also alienated from

But relationship marketing will be

where the real selling happens in the future. For not only does it work but,

strangely, we love it. This is strange

because, in fact, its connotations are

rather sinister. It depends, above all,

on our willingness to allow ourselves to be watched, to let the details of our

lives be logged on computers far

beyond our control. Twenty years ago

we would have recoiled in horror at

the idea; it would have seemed such

an assault on our freedom and privacy.

Yet now it seems obvious, routine

This movement towards accep-

The technological

culture is not a

nightmare but a

welcome convenience

tance of the wired culture is a general phenomenon. Once the idea of sur-

veillance cameras on street corners

would have seemed an outrage. Now

the economic system.

clearly desirable.

Censored: the V-chip's real aim

Julian Petley suspects that supporters of a device to screen out TV violence have a hidden agenda

At first sight the V-chip, which is being promoted by the Government as the answer to TV violence, looks like rather a good idea. Parents with their fingers on the elec-tronic key would be able to protect their children from programmes that might disturh them, while they themselves would retain the ability to watch more "adult" material. This way, we are saved from

the television diet recommended by those politicians, such as Roger Gale, chair of the Conservative backbench media committee, in which nothing would be allowed on at any time that might disturb any child who might be watching. But would it work like that? I doubt it.

If we're concerned with irresponsible parents who let their children watch unsuitable tele-vision programmes, why should we suppose that they are going to discover a sense of responsibility towards their children when they acquire a new tele-vision fitted with this gizmo? Also, as it is a statistical fact that more children than adults can work video recorders, we can't he at all sure that some of them won't find ways of subverting the chip, Indeed, I can imagine some techno-brats fixing it so that it's the parents who can't watch their favourite programme if it clashes with their offspring's choice on another channel.

Next, who's going to work out the rating system on which the effectiveness of the chip will depend? Different verdicts are sometimes handed out on the same programmes by the Brnadcasting Standards Coun-cil, the BBC Programme Complaints Unit and the Independent Television Commission. There is no consensus on the standards and values that would have to form the basis for any such rating system. And even if such a consensus could be forged among the terrestrial broadcasters, would the satellite broadcasters agree to it? The movie channels, for example, argue that their encrypted signal enables them to broadcast "stronger" versions of certain films that are shown cut on

BBC, ITV or C4. Satellite television is part of is not simply the protection of the internationalisation of children but the diminution of broadcasting, which is why the What adults may see on televi-EU is also considering introducing V-chips. Would any British ratings system have to be harmonised with a possible European one? This would present considerable problems, since most of our continental neighbours are far less troubled about what is shown on their

televisions screens than we are about ours, and they are most certainly not going to be swayed by what they regard as Anglo-Saxon puritanism. It would indeed be frome if, thanks to the proponents of the chip. Britain was eventually forced to accept a more, as opposed to less, liberal regime of television regulation.
Finally, what do the chip's

supporters really want? The Liberal Democrat MP David Alton said yesterday that he intended to put down a V-chip amendment to the Broadcasting Bill if the Heritage Secrelary, Virginia Bottomley, did not decide to legislate, and added that a number of Tory

Techno-brats will fix it so parents can't watch their TV favourites

MPs had promised him their

support.

But does he want a world where children are protected from disturbing images while adults sit around happily watching "stronger" stuff, safe in the knowledge that the satisfaction of their pleasures isn't causing distress elsewhere? I don't think so. It was Mr Alton who spearheaded the campaign in 1994 to make video censorship, already among the toughest in the world, even more stringent.

The lobby group Movement for Christian Democracy, of which Mr Alton is a member. congratulated itself on its "campaign triumph in video battle". and added that "the victory on violent videos is the first battle in a continuing campaign". Now the V-chip presents the campaign with an opportunity to do battle again.

By all means let's have a sen-sible debate about the V- chip. But let's have all the cards on the table please. If some of the proponents of the chip are trying to use this issue as a way of advancing their own, very particular agenda, let us know about it. And if their real object clear.

The writer, who lectures in communication studies at Branch University, is co-editing a book on how the media influences people, to be published by Routledge later this year.

Big Brother buys our loyalty

Shopping smart cards are being used to gather information on our personal lives. Do we care?

My life has changed. I am known as never before. My movements and habits are tracked, implicated, counted. Electronically, I am watched by British Airways, BT, Shell, the National Westminster Bank, even, weirdly, by John Menzies.

These companies have bought my acquiescence in this surveillance by offering me the magic of Air Miles. Soothingly, respectfully they say: look, you buy petrol, make phone calls or use credit cards anyway, so why not use ours? It's a painless, costfree decision and, to reward you for making it, we will give you free air travel, the supreme luxury of the

modern world.
How could I resist? Anything other than Shell petrol is now unthinkable



BRYAN APPLEYARD

and my Visa and American Express cards languish unused in my wallet. For the moment I can think of nothing I wish to buy at John Menzies, but

This is all, of course, made possible by information technology. I do almost nothing new, yet quantum physics and silicon chips ensure that the things I habitually do are automatically logged and rewarded. We note this newly discovered phenomenon of your loyalty, say the companies, and, electronically, we embrace you, we

And loyalty is what they call it. even though I have, in reality, been bribed and feel no moral or emotional commitment to Shell as opposed to BP, NatWest as opposed to Amex. I'm just in it for the Miles. But the companies don't mind; loy-alty to them means only mindless repetition, they require no movement of my soul, no careful consumer assessment of their goods.

Loyalty marketing - sometimes called, even more intimately, "relationship marketing" – is the Big New Thing in corporate thinking. It has begun to infect almost every transactions of the state of the stat

non down to the most fleeting. Buy a coffee these days and the café will probably offer you 10p off the next latte or cappuccino, just to make you, in commercial terms, "loyal". But the real loyalty action is happening in the big corporate computer databases. These have given compa-

nies the power not just to know peo-

ple, in general, but people in particu-

lar. Take up Tesco's lovalty card and

somebody at head office will know exactly what you buy; idly allow your-self to be hooked into Heinz's system and you will receive a magazine speci-fically edited to respond to your personal buying patterns.

The first effect of this new power.

is to expose the appalling inefficiency of traditional advertising. However big a brand - Coca-Cola, Guinness, Heinz Baked Beans, whatever - the reality is that it is actually bought by only a small minority of the total population. Yet the usual advertising approach is to shout at, cajole or wheedle everybody. Inevitably, any such ad will be wasted on the overwhelming majority of its audience. But relationship marketing is a magic bullet that targets only those who are fabulously outdated, hugely incom-

genuinely likely to buy or have already

It is also a way of getting round one

awkward fact of modern life: most of the stuff we buy is so utterly banal and undifferentiated that ordinary advertising has lost its persuasive power. This even applies to something as apparently exciting as a car. Consider the two TV campaigns now running for the Peugeot 406 and the Vauxhall Vector. The Sept property that the 406 Vectra. The first suggests that the 406 will help you to "search for the hero inside yourself" and the second implies that the Vectra is a futuristic, sci-fi vehicle miraculously available now. Yet both are utterly dull midrange saloons, indistinguishable from the competition. The rhetoric of these

petent ads looks absurd. We care for neither car since we know the claims

to be meaningless. Clearly, traditional advertising will continue. The Peugeot and Vauxhall ads may make dealers feel good and may provide some rather tenuous reinforcement for people who have bought one of these bland runabouts.

But on the whole, it will have to change. The hig traditional branding successes of recent years - Nike, Orange, Tango, Microsoft - have been based on a deliberate avoidance of such crudity. Instead, they appeal to the young and zany (Tango), the seeker after authenticity (Nike), the globalised loner (Orange) or the technologically antious (Microsoft). These are personalities that appear true

it is accepted as a commonsense measure against crime and terrorism. The technological culture, in which our lives are examined, cross-referenced and used by agencies and in ways of which we know nothing, is not, it seems, a nightmare but a welcome convenience. This has happened, I think, because

we have all become technological determinists. All this is going to happen whatever we say or do, so resistance is pointless. The qualms of 1984 or Brave New World seem like the remote, futile anxieries of another culture. The electronic system, the Net with its fabulous appetite for personal detail, is here whether we like it or not. What choice do we have but to accept its presence, to co-operate with its exotic system of goads and rewards?

At a deeper level, I think we atso find all this consoling. The systems that lock us into these networks of companies, even the system that watches our movements on the street, feel friendly. When I buy my Shell and collect my Miles, somehody or something recognises me. Mad as it may seem, I accept the mercenary flattery. We all do because for that moment it feel better than the usual blank impersonal-

ity of the wired world. But then the Orwellian conscience kicks in. Where is all this information going? What awful correlations is it generating? And do I care enough to stop collecting Air Miles?

Land-mines are everyone's enemy

It is time that Britain, which has been a leader in restricting the trade in anti-personnel mines, set a long-term goal of establishing an international ban on this weapon. The major military powers can probably live without weapons whose misuse claims up to 26,000 victims a year. the majority of them civilians. There are, according to the UN, about 110 cillion of these mines scattered in 64 countries. Tough action must be taken by countries such as Britain, with a

commitment to humanitarianism. The call for a ban comes not simply from peace campaigners. At the weekend, General John Shalikashvili, chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, was reported to have said that

he is now inclined to support a total ban on anti-personnel land-mines, His statement echoed the view of

many countries and the Red Creek Until now the US and the UK have taken a more measured approach by halting exports and seeking tn strengthen legal controls regulating the use of mines. But this may not be enough to galvanise international action to deal effectively with a prob-

lem that worsens by the day.

Mines continue to be laid in large numbers. About half of those injured numbers. About half of those injured die of their injuries, while most of the weapons lies in their indiscriminate

Terence Taylor

survivors lose one or more limbs. In most of the conflict areas, specialised treatment and artificial limbs are not available. The casualties become a burden on their families. Whole communities are prevented from working their agricultural land.

nature. The overwhelming majority of them remain in place long after their military purpose is over: most victims are in the end non-combatants, placing these weapons in a class apart from other conventional weapons.

There is an ongoing review of the UN Convention, which sets rules on the use of mines. One proposal is to allow the use only of mines that selfdestruct within a set perind after being laid. Another is to permit only mines that can be detected by available mine-clearing technologies.

convention, Britain among them. believe that it is better to be pragmatic and get the many non-members to sign up to the limits set out by the convention than to call for a total han. However, a clarion call for an outright ban, as a stated long-term objective, may bring in support for the more limited measures and lead to a speedier advance in the laws of armed conflict.

The major military powers must take the lead, as they have done on export moratoria, if they are to reduce the awful consequences of this weapon's misuse.

Col Terence Taylor is assistam director of the International Institute for Strate-A number of the 57 parties to the gic Studies. These are his personal views.

no one will have to sponsor her children she's known is one of hunger, poverty and disease. But by the time she has children of ner own, this could be a very dillerent story It could be one about lamilies, about villagers working together to earn their own living. About children who can read and write and have a future. About a community that can treat the sick and is free from fatal diseases. And if if is, it is because you care enough to sponsor a child. In return, we'll keep you in lough with regular reports rom cur lield workers plus a pholograph and messages n the child you sponsor Please sponsor a child loday With your help we really can change the future Please sponsor a child loday. ------ \square Please send me details about sponsoring a child, or call: $01460\,61073$. □4h:> □Ase □Where there's greatest need 🗍 i can't spensor a cialló now, but enclose a git ot: ධිකාශ වණා වනා වන වෙද Make theretains the parameter ACTIONARD and there is a CTIONARD THEFTICAL 53-856 (had, Schedol F420 18F)

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CITY & BUSINESS EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

Bad news continues as BAT tries to reassure investors

DAVID USBORNE New York TOM STEVENSON

A flood of bad news from around the world continued to dog BAT yesterday even as a hastily convened analysts and invectors meeting in London was being reassured about the impact of a landmark legal setflement by US tobacco rival emerged yesterday that

Brown and Williamson, BAT's US-based subsidiary, is under investigation by a federal grand jury over claims that it knew about an operation to smuggle its eigarettes into Canada to avoid Canadian taxes.

lu a separate development in India, BAT was also hit yesterday by an unexpectedly harsh court order forcing its 32 per cent Indian subsidiary ITC to deposit 3.5hn rupees (\$101m) pending an appeal against an She rupee fine for tax evasion.

As this had news flowed in, against legal attacks had started one of five grand jury investi-ndustry watchers in London to crumble. BAT fell further yes-vere told by a BAT (awyer that terday, closing down 12p at 488p. industry currently being pursued industry watchers in London were told by a BAT (awyer that Liggett's settlement of a US class action, which alleged that tobacco companies deliberately manipulated nicotine levels in cigarettes to encourage addiction, would not change the state of its own litigation.

The Liggett settlement had seni tobacco company share prices plunging last week as inestors feared that the industry's long-maintained united frunt

terday, closing down 12p at 488p. The lawyer restated BAT's view that the Liggett settlement was simply a sideshow in an attempt by Liggett's controlling shareholder. Bennett LeBow, to gain control of the second largest American eigarette maker RJR Nabisco.

The latest US probe, which could result in the filing of criminal charges against Brown and Williamson executives, is

under the auspices of the US Justice Department, the New York Times said yesterday.

The newspaper reported that the five investigations could lead to jail terms for some of the industry's most senior executives and that several of them had already taken steps in hire highpriced criminal defence lawyers. The sense of siege among the cigarette manufacturers was

that a former scientist at Philip Morris, the US's largest cigarette maker, had testified that the company knew about the addictive qualities of nicotine and manipulated mootine levels. Philip Marris, which saw its share price plummet by \$5 in

early trading yesterday, has consistently demed such claims. In an affidavit delivered to the Food and Drug Administration into Canada, where cigarette this month, the scientist, Ian duties are much heavier than in

company "routinely targeted and adjusted" nicotine levels in cigarcties to match the "optimum

range" preferred by smokers.
Of the five grand jury investigations, it is thought that the probe into Brown and Williamson is likely to conclude first. The jury is studying claims that the company was aware of the ulleged smuggling operation

also compounded by a separate: Uydess, who left Philip Morris in the United States. Early last report in the Wall Sweet Journal 1989, reportedly said that the year, the headquarters of that a former sciencist is Philip Brown and Williamson, in Louisville, Kentucky, were searched by federal ageots. Executives have denied the company had any knowledge of

Smuggling, however.

Any criminal convictions involving tobacco industry exec-utives of any of the main companies would embolden the US government in its efforts to label cigarettes as drug products and regulate their sale.

Merging societies may get protection from predators

JOHN EISENHAMMER Financial Editor

The Government sought yesterday to lack-start mergers in the beleaguered building society movement by proposing restric-tions on hostile takeovers. Presenting the draft Bill on building societies. Angela Knight, the Treasury Minister, suggested ring-fencing societies which have decided to merge against outside

We want to make sure that building societies feel they can continue to do their traditional mergers. At the moment they feel this not to be practical, because as soon as they announce a merger, they get into the firing line for a predatory takeover," she said,

The Government will be looking for responses from the market to its suggestions and the draft legislation, over the com-ing three months. Introducing the Bill. Mrs Knight, who described herself as a "lan of building societies", said it aimed to provide a permissive legal framework instead of the prescriptive legislation that currently governs the movement. "I think what the Bill does is ensure building societies have a level playing field, and can do more while remaining mutual," she

The need for reform has been nvery, which has seen three of the four biggest building societies announce their intention to float on the Stock Exchange next year. When the Halifax/Leeds. will "remove barriers to what so-



Angela Knight: Proposals to restrict hostile takeovers

Alliance & Leicester and the Woolwich finally convert, just 30 per cent of mortgage assets will remain with building societies. a dramatic transformation from their predominant position just tive years ago.

The Government has been concerned that unless it locsened the logislative reins, remaining societies would find it too difficult in the hugely competitive retail financial services sector.

The draft legislation contains two so-called "nature limits", designed to keep huilding societies concentrated on their traditionally core business. They must raise 50 per cent of funds from retail deposits and they have to 75 per cent of their lending in the form of home loans. But beyond pointed up by a recent rush to this, societies will be pretty much

next millennium" the legislation

bonds with members," said Mrs

The suggestion to ring-tence merging societies from outside predators responds to strong calls from within the movement to prevent a "duck-shoot". But the government's suggestion yesterday of a moratorium provoked criticism that members would be prevented from knowing potentially better offers from

Mrs Knight was vague about whether the proposal would prevent a bank, for example, even telling members of the merging building societies what deal it would offer after the moratorium expired. "It would be a one-year ring fence from when the merger is announced, to give a quiet period for the societies' consultation of their members to take place," she said. "This is merely a suggestion to get some order into the merger

Mrs Knight also suggested that, if a society becomes the target of a rush of account opening on speculation that it will convert. might be able to suspend the shareholding status of new accounts for a short period.

Mrs Knight said she would

"push hard" to get the draft Bill into the Queen's Speech at the start of the next session of Parliament in the autumn. The Labour Party yesterday

election.



A&L pulls out of estate agency

JOHN EISENHAMMER

The Alliance & Leicester building society said vesterday it was pulling out of the estate agency business, and announced a £40m write-off that took the wind out of profits. Peter White, chief executive, said he hoped to have sold or closed the 70 agencies by late summer.

"There was no way we were oing to make money out of it. We just had to take a tough de-

The decision to get out of esagency is part of the process urgently to put the reforms of cleaning up the balance sheet net mortgage advances at \$.2 the stock market next spring. share by market weighting of 5

Comment, page 17 The goodwill in the chain, con-

The gap between govern-shortfall, possibly due to lower—they have horrowed £1.66n on

contrated in East Anglia and the ceded that earnings oo this increased Midlands, is £25m, with a creased share were slim. "The further £15m coming from redundancy and closure costs.

The write-off held pre-tax profits last year virtually flat at £287m, as A&L faced very tough conditions in two of its core business markets: home loans and Girobank, the group's corporate banking side. The mortgage market became increasingly competitive in 1995, with a wider range of discounts, fixed rates and special offers

than ever hefore. A&L achieved its highest-ever market share of total UK Entitled "mutuality for the into law before the general for A&L's planned flotation on per cent, as against its "normal"

creased share were slim. "The margins are very tight on new business. But we do not launch anything that does not make a profit," he said.

Girobank, which is the country's biggest telephone banking operation, was also operating under "very tough conditions", he said. The personal banking sector fared the best, with a 57 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £63m. But Girobank's corporate money transfer husiness saw profits toch up to £66m from £63m in 1994.

Easing the pain of the estate agency write-off to some extent was an unexpectedly sharp drop in the bad debt provision to just £3m, from £29m in 1994.

we have had for a long time, thanks to recoveries of commercial loans previously written off," said Richard Pym, group finance director. The cut in had debt provisions accounted for much of the 15 per cent tocrease in group pre-tax oper-ating profits to £327m.

"Overall, the results are be-

low expectations. Even though the improvement in bad debts is extremely good, it means on an operating level the profit growth has been small," said

Rob Thomas, analyst at UBS. etics, 40 per cent of Alliance profits are from non-traditional tion appears to be better than activities. This is one reason why any time in the past 12 months." it is anxious to gain bank status.

'Buyers back' in housing market

The new year recovery in the housing market continued last month, with nearly three quar-ters of estate agents reporting higher activity, writes Diane Coyle. Buyers have been encouraged by interest rate cuts

takeover

conraged by interest rate cuts and excellent mortgage deals, according to the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

Its regular survey of members for the three months to February found 62.6 per cent reporting an increase in business of up to 10 per cent, while nearly one in sold exting the dealy one in the conditions of the condi eight said activity had grown by 25-50 per cent. Only 5 per cent with three months earlier. Prices were flat, however.

More than four fifths of the estate agents said selling prices were the same as three months ago. The survey commented that recovery was to danger of being held back by sellers who had been encouraged by posi-tive reports and decided to hold out for a better price. David Baker, an estate agent

"There is definitely more activity hut let us not get carried away with the thought that prices will rise. There is a lot of slack to be taken up first."

Denis Chapman in Scarbot

ough, described the market as still very patchy with only the realistically-priced properties finding purchasers. John Pocock of Pocock and

Shaw in Cambridge was more optimistic "Houses generally

PSBR heads towards £3bn overshoot

ment revenues and spending was

C3bn in February, the last but

one month of the financial year.

It would have been higher, ex-

DIANE COYLE **Economics Editor**

Government borrowing is likely to be £2bn to £3bn over target this financial year, limiting Chancellor Kenneth Clarke's scope for tax cuts in the next The most serious slippage in

the public sector finances is alarmingly slow growth in government revenues. Tax receipts are likely to be up in £2bn lower than forecast at the time of last November's budget - and £7bn lower than the level predieted in the previous budget. Spending by Whitehall is also

running ahead of plans and could overshoot by about Elbn. unless some expenditure can be clawed back successfully this month. This could be difficult in a month when departments have usually rushed to spend as much as possible before the Andrew Smith, shadow Chief

Secretary to the Treasury, said: Public borrowing is still running at a very high level, reflecting weakness rather than strength

in the economy."

The Treasury said borrowing remained on a downward trend. a conclusion backed by most City analysis. "There is now some clear improvement in the public finances this year compared to last," said Simon Briscoe at Nikko Europe.

However, many thought fu-

ture borrowing would also over-shoot the Budget plans, thanks to fax cuts announced last November taking effect and the 4 per cent pay awards in the pub-lie sector. Kevin Darlington at Hoare Govett said borrowing would continue to shrink but would remain above the Maastricht ceiting of 3 per cent of

the General sale.

the Bank yesterday against the

he said. "in order to build up

policy credibility against the background of the UK's un-

happy track record". It had also been less over-

pessimistic about inflation than

many other forecasters, he said

in a speech to the Swedish

charge that it is "congenitally pessimistic", writes Diane Coyle. The Bank had to err slightly on the side of caution,

Revenues have increased 9 per cent this financial year. compared to a Budget forecast of 9.6 per cent for the full year. Lower inflation has led to slower revenue growth, VAT re-

Bank wanted to hias the com-

the end of sustained growth in

did enter the Bank's calculations.

through its inflation forecast.

but this was an uncertain

The Governor conceded that

The current state of demand

activity and employment."

Spending was up 4.3 per cent in the 11 months to February, above the Budget forecast of 3.8 cept for an unexpected £1.5bn in privatisation receipts from per cent for the year as a whole. BAA shares, electricity compa-Debt interest payments have ny bonds and the second part of been higher than expected, at

overed its caution.

"disaster" in his view.

£21.50n since last April compared to £19.1hn at the same stage last financial year. Local authorities are also likely to be in the red. They made a monthly debt repayment of £757m in ecipts account for much of the £0.5bn in 11 months. However, next year's PSBR.

this year, they are unlikely to meet the target of a £0.15n debt repayment for the full year.

spending on consumer goods average every March to use up liable for VAT. average every March to use up the remainder of their annual

Economists said that on last month's trends, the full-year Public Sector Borrowing Requirement (PSBR) would be £31-32bp, compared with a target of £29bn set in the Novemher budget. This is much smaller than the Treasury's average February, and have repaid £10hn error in forecasting the UK PSBR

the remainder of their annual

hudget. If the pattern is normal

George defends Bank's policy Cumplative PSSR (E'000m) . Eddie George, Cowernor of Economics Association, Critics the fact that most people think the Bank of England, defended were wrong to conclude that the forecasts are either right or -1994.95 wrong meant setting interest Treasury forecast the economy two years hence could "weaken the operational credibility of policy". The Bank could not afford to consistently Despite these difficulties, the inflation target was better than the alternative. Shadowing and then joining the Exchange Rate Mechanism had been a

Juppé abandons plan to sell off France Telecom

MARY FAGAN and MARY DEJEVSKY

The French government has abandoned the privatisation of France Telecom, the monopoly telephone network aperator, in an apparent attempt to appease trade unions and employees.

Alain Juppe, the Prime Minister, ended months of specu-

lation by saying that the company's statute would be changed to meet the challenge of cumpetition when the European telecommunications market is opened up on I January 1998, but that it would remain in state control.

Mr Juppé said that the state wuuld retain a majority stake in France Telecom with employees preserving their status us public employees and the henefits of secure employment and pensions.

However, the government ingered one of the main trade unions, Force Ouvrière, by accepting the principle of an in-dependent regulatory authority outside both France Telecom and the government.

The independence and strength of the regulator has been of great concern to BT and other operators who wish to compete in French public telephony. A spokesman for BT said: "It is also important that there should be the appropriate pro-competition law in place."

Mr Juppé said that France
Telecom would be required to evolve to compete "on an equal footing with its competitors" -

and that a Bill eashrining the necessary changes would be hald before the French parlia-

ment this spring.
The decision to stop short of wholesale privatisation will be seen as a blow to François Fillon, the minister of post and tele-coms, who had called for rapid self-off. The cautious wording of the statement appeared to reflect

the French government's concern not to provoke a repetition of events last November, when changed.

plans to restructure the state railway company. SNCF, and alter public sector pension arrange-ments, sparked off four weeks of strikes and protests and paralysed the national rail network. As part of the price of a return to work, the government had to ahandon the whole SNCF restructuring plan.

A recent report from the prime minister's office found that the "special status" of France's public sector was not incompatible with EU deregy lation. However in spite of yes terday's statement it remains unclear whether privatisation has been ruled out completely or merely postponed for the forseeable future.

There is also uncertainty as to whether the pledge to preserve the public service status of employees will extend to those recruited after the law is

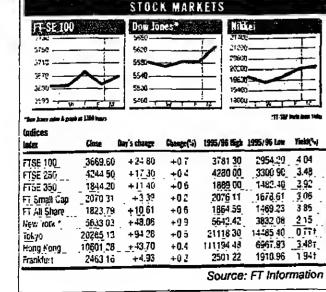
TEXTINDEPENDENT Win a Health Spa break

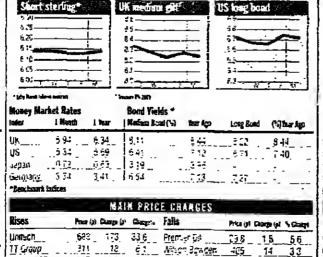
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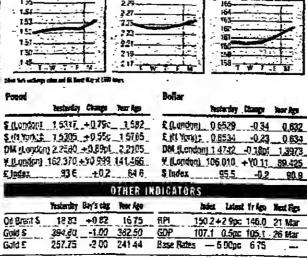
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INTEREST RATES



CURRENGIES





Takeover rules are usually designed to protect the rights of investors, but Angela Knight's half-baked suggestion appears, by contrast, designed more to protect building society

directors'

Muddled thinking in the building societies Bill

There is something false and hypocritical about the Government's sudden concern for that endangered species, the building society. Belately and balf-heartedly, the Govemment seems to have decided there is something worth protecting in the mutually owned building society tradition. Even as a piece of well-meant conservation, bowever, the building societies Bill looks a masterpiece of muddled thinking and irrelevance.

Certainly the Government's "Mutuality for the next Millenium" proposals might better have been presented by Virginia Bottomley than Angela Knight. As Heritage Secretary, Mrs Bottomley is at least meant to tend those threatened corners that everyone wants to keep forever England. Given the alarming rate at which societies have been ahandoning mutuality and opting for

conversion to quoted company status, the Heritage secretary's time may yet come. For the moment, though, it is Angela Knight at the Treasury who is hoping to hold back the tide by offering societies which soldier on a bit more freedom of generality. dier on a bit more freedom of manoeuvre and some protection from the big, bad world of competition outside. The Government wants the stalled process of mergers between building societies kick-started again in the hope tha this might produce some powerful mutuals to revitalise the movement. The trouble is that any society that announces a merger is as likely as not to be picked off by predator banks offering tempting windfall profits to their members. Hence the suggestion of a one-year moratorium for merging societies, shielding them from predatory advances so they can consult their members in peace and quiet.

But just how is this meant to work in practice? Mrs Knight clearly does not know. If the Bradford & Bingley and Northern Rock, say, were to announce a merger, does this mean Barclays would not be allowed to tell members what sort of alternative deal they might get? Takeover rules are usually designed to protect the rights of investors. Mrs Knight's half-baked suggestion appears, by contrast, designed more to protect building society directors.

Retail financial services in this country bave undergone dramatic change in recen years. Competition is intense, and increasng. To survive, building societies must be able to compete on the market's terms, by offering the best deals. This Government, of all, should know that. In the end, it will be market forces, not legislation, that shapes the future of this industry. That would be true even if this draft Bill makes it onto the statute books, which looks a long shot given the likely timing of the next election.

Unlocking value at Pearson

Pearson is a fine company in many respects with some wonderful assets. Like all big with some wonderful assets. Like all big market for floppy discs. Tight pricing in the companies, however, it occassionally has emorphism original equipment manufacturing end of Brighton – among other Sussex gems (as Britain's railways are now.

Mindscape. However good Pearson's general record in acquisition making might be, this one looks like turning into a real bowler.

On the whole, Pearsoo's acquisition strategy has been well thought out. It has moved impressively to extend its television programming, ootably through the acquisition of Thames Television, Grundy Worldwide, and ACI, all of which have added to profits. Publishing has been expanded through the \$580m acquisition of HarperCollins's educational publishing operation, injecting better balance into its range of products for

schools and universities. However, Mindscape, a publisher of CD-Roms, cartridges and floppy discs, for which Pearson paid a bandsome £312m in 1994. falls into an altogether different catagory. This was always meant to be a long term acquisition, a bet on the future. Nonetheless it was also meant to at least break even last year. That is certainly what Pearson told the

City to expect. As it is, Mindscape lost £6.9m.
When Pearson carefully warned analysts as recently as December 1995 that operating profits were likely to be below City estimales, it uttered not a word about Mind-

Scape.

The house line is that returns of unsold stock in the new year were higher than expected, and that the bottom fell out of

malaise, Pearson says. There is clearly more to it than that, bowever, Evidence of this is in the team of external consultants who are now to comb through the operations and

make recommendations for change. Pearson went to great lengths yesterday to deny persistent reports in the press that Granada had considered mounting a bid for the company last year. But the fact of the matter is that Granada did; it was not an invention of the press. Pearson seems as determined to ignore this unpalatable truth as the persistent losses at Mindscape.

Pearson management is clearly very sen-sitive about the possibility of a takeover bid. And no wonder. There is much value to be unlocked in a company with such a range of attractive assets.

Management's case is hardly helped by the fact it clearly overnaid for Mindscape. Unless Pearson itself does some of the unlocking (and admittedly recent management restructuring suggests it may do) then someone else will do it instead.

Encourage the French - up to a point

Hackles rise whenever it gets out that a British public service. The idea of Generale des Eanz taking over railway services to

barrassments. Right now there could be a the CD-Rom market contributed to the reported on our news pages - will have sea big one developing in its midst. It is called malaise, Pearson says. There is clearly more sound commuters choking over their kippers. It is only a few years since the scandal of the season was the French move into the water industry, which culminated last year in the takeover of Northumbrian Water by Lyonnaise des Faux.

But the reality is that the arrival of the But the reality is that the arrival of the French has had a positive impact on the water industry — witness the 15 per cent price cuts agreed as a condition of the Northumbrian takeover — and there is no reason why they should not be of benefit to the rail industry. Lyonnaise and Generale are members of a French breed that appear to have no UK equivalent — large utility companies specialising in public works and companies specialising in public works and

construction projects

There is no British company of equivalent size and capitalisation to these two
giants with the resources to invest on a comparable scale in public works projects and services. Generale employs 215,000 people and has turnover of £18bn, of which nearly

a third is outside France.

Given the capital resources of the group, it is likely to be at least as good an owner. of a railway franchise as the management buyout teams that are currently over-rep-resented among the bidders for the businesses on offer. The French deserve to be encouraged - but only up to a point. There is a long way to go before French service industries are as open to outsiders as

Media groups: Publishing and leisure company reveals unexpected losses at its US CD-Rom publisher □ Rival looks to global on-screen expansion

Pearson remains takeover target after mixed results

MATHEW HORSMAN Media Editor

Pearson, the media, publishing and leisure company, yesterday failed to shed its reputation as a potential takeover target, unveiling mixed results from its range of publishing, entertain-

ment and television assets. Despite posting pre-tax profits up 23 per cent to £365.1 m in 1995, the company, publishers of the Financial Times and a leading television programmer, detailed unexpected losses at its US CD-Rom publisher, Mindscape. It also had to rely on an extraordinary profit of £131m from its sale last year of a stake in BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster, to shield a 5 per cent drop in its underlying performance.

The shares rose 7p on the day, to close at 664p. Henderson Crosthwaite reiterated vesterday its breakup estimate of £9 a share.

Analysts were of mixed view on the results. Neil Blackley, at Goldman Sachs, said: "I like the company, It's got some tremendous brands and you can see

those shining through." But other analysts were conet of games and "infotainment" titles on CD-Rom, cartridges and floppy discs, bought for £312m nearly two years ago.

Last December, the company warned analysis that operating profits would be down year on year in 1995, although no mention was made of Mindscape. "Clearly, the results at Mind-

scape are unacceptable," Frank Barlow, chief executive, said. The company has hired the consultants Mckinsey to undertake a review of the operations and recently announced the appointment of John Moore, formerly head of Penguin US, as chief executive. The losses were linked in part

to a high rate of return in the new year of product shipped in December for the all-important Christmas season. What we must do now is a

detailed market study to decide Mr Barlow said. The company's television op-

erations, which include Thames Television and Grundy Worldwide, the independent producers, both performed strongly. Despite criticism last year of the cerned about the losses of £6.9m £175m paid for Grundy, Greg Pearson last year.

at Mindscape, the US publish- Dyke, chief executive of Pearson Televison, told analysts that the acquisition had been a great

> Westminister Press, the company's regional publishing arm, was also a bright spot, helped by cost-cutting programme. Lazard Brothers, the investment bank, also turned in a superior performance, and stands to do even better this year once it takes in fees due on its work for Granada on the £3.8bn Forte bid. Mr Barlow said that future

> equisitions were likely to come in the television and media sectors, where management attention bas been concentrated in recent years.

A recent restructuring bas led to firmer lines of management control and the appointment to the main board of key executives, including Mr Dyke from Pearson Television and John Makinson, formerly mandirector of the rinancia Times, who replaces James Joll as group financing director on

Mr Barlow dismissed reports, first published in the Independent, that Granada had contemplated a break-up bid for



Media blues: Frank Barlow, chief executive of Pearson, described the results at Mindscape as "unacceptable", adding: "What we must do now is a detailed market study to decide where we should concentrate"

Granada plans to focus on TV ventures

leisure company, is to rebrand its television arm and seek international partners to expand in Asia, America and on the Continent, writes Mathew.

A potential partner worldwide is Rupert Murdoch's' BSkyB, the satellite broadalready set up a joint venture to a good business and highly launch five new satellite chan-cash-generative? launch five new satellite channels in the UK.

The renewed emphasis on broadcasting follows the £3.8bn acquisition earlier this year of Forte, the notels and restaurants company, which has consumed management attention since last autumn.

The company is currently looking at several possible names for the new television subsidiary, meluding Granada Broadcasting System (GBS).

A new chief executive of the tential partners, to prove that we television arm is expected to be are a pretty girl after all." named within weeks. A shortlist of two candidates is currently e reviewed it is expected that Duncan mercial TV market. These are Lewis, formally chief executive of Mercury Communications. the telephone company, will be named to the position.

Granada, the media and Yorkshire-Tyne Tees the ITV franchise holder, and is a large supplier of programming for the ITV network. It earned profits of £140m last year from its

television operations. Charles Allen, chief executive-designate of the company, said in an exclusive interview that "television is clearly a pricaster, with which Granada has - ority for us now, it's inherently

He added that the joint venture with BSkyB was a natural route for expansion. They are very knowledgeable about pay-TV, and have the expertise to set. up new channels."

Expansion in Asia, the US and the Continent is likely to follow the model of the joint venture with BSkyB." We are looking to have alliances in major markets." Mr Allen said. We are currently preparing to tell our story to po-

Mr Allen said the move into pay-TV did not imply a dissattwo separate markets, and we believe they should be considered separately," he said.

*Only commercial television Granada, which operates can deliver mass audiences, ITV licences Granada and while cable and satelline can ad-LWT, also holds 25 per cent of dress narrow markets.".

GEC confirms Simpson job

RUSSELL HOTTEN

GEC yesterday ended months of speculation by announcing that George Simpson, the Lucas chief executive, would replace Lord Weinstock, who has ruled the defence and electronics giant for 33 years. Lord Weinstock, 71, will stay

on as honorary chairman, an appointment that was greeted with a mixed response from analysis who fear he may be tempted to interfere. But Mr Simpson, 53, whose Lucas contract does not expire

until March 1997, is thought to have secured assurances from the GEC board about his right to manage. Lord Weinstock's role will be a non-board post, though the company said GEC would have available the benefit of his long experience and profound

knowledge of the company."

In a short statement GEC

said that Mr Simpson would join



will be honorary chairman

"as soon as be is free to take up the appointment", giving Lucas time to find a replacement to ensure an orderly transition. Speculation about Mr Simpson's future has been a cloud over Lucas's shares and is like-

ly to remain so until uncertainty

about his successor is clarified,

that GEC may have to buy out the remainder of Mr Simp-to Germany's BMW. Evidence son's Lucas contract.

GEC has consistently underperformed the market in recent years, and investors have long wanted a new managing director to re-energise the diverse group. One GEC insider said: "There has been a lot of marking time around here while we wait for things to change at

the top."
Although Mr Simpson has been the frontrunner to succeed Lord Weinstock, his appointment is not without its critics who consider that be may find the transition from the motor industry difficult. However, an analyst said yesterday: "George Simpson is a very good industrialist and a good strategic thinker. And what GEC needs

now is a new strategy."

Mr Simpson joined Lucas analysts believe. It is possible

of the improvements being made at Lucas should be revealed in today's interim results. Some analysts believe that Mr Simpson's inside knowledge of BAe, a long-rumoured GEC bid target, was a key to his appointment. GEC favours forging a national "champion" defence group with BAe to compete with the giant US or-ganisations. However, BAe has

been at the forefront in pursuing cross-border mergers as part of the consolidation in the European defence industry. Mike Styles, analyst at Credit Lyonnais Laing, saw Lord Weinstock's role as useful for Mr Simpson, as there are few people that truly understand the whole company. "It is reassuring for the market that Lord Weinstock and his contacts wil

two years ago from British remain, he said. GEC shares Aerospace, where he was deputy chairman and ran the Lucas fell 45- to 192p.

IN BRIEF

 Japan's trade surplus shrank for the eighth month running in February due to strong growth in imports. The surplus fell to \$6.1360 compared with \$11.31bn a year earlier. The bilateral deficit with the US fell 30 per cent to \$3.4bn during the same period. finports have been rising for more than two and a half years, as Japanese firms have increasingly switched to supplying the domestic market from lower-cost plants in South East Asia. In the past 12 months, for example, the value of semiconductor imports has risen 68.8 per cent and office equipment by 59.2 per cent.

· Argos, the catalogue retailer with a £231m cash pile, is rewarding shareholders with a special dividend of 42p per share, equiva-lent to £127m. This is in addition to the 13p ordinary dividend which has been increased by almost 30 per cent on the previous year. Argos chief executive Mike Smith announced the plans along with impressive results for last year, which saw profits increase by 24 per cent to £124m. The company is looking at opening branches of Argos in the Netherlands. It is considering acquisi-tions though refused to comment on whether it might buy H Samuel the jewellery chain being sold by Signet.

 Ian Lang. Trade and Industry Secretary, agreed to a two-week extension of the Monopolics and Mergers Commission deadline to 4 April for reporting on two proposed acquisitions in the elec-tricity industry: PowerGen's for Midlands Electricity and National Power's for Southern Electric.

Investment Column, page 18

 Eastern Track Renewals has been sold to a management buyout team - Fastline Rail Services - backed by Apax Partners and Hambros Bank. The York-based business is one of the main track renewal contractors to Railtrack, and also specialises in on-track machine repair and overhaul. John Watts, minister for railways and roads, said: "This sale demonstrates again that the railway industry is prepared to invest in its own future."

 Zeneca plans to sell its US-based DNA identification laboratory, Cellmark Diagnostics, to Lifecodes Corp for an undisclosed amount. Cellmark is the largest non-governmental forensic DNA testing laboratory in the US and the only one with accreditation from the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors.

 Helene, the clothing manufacturer, has received an approach from a management team led by Robert Godfrey, a director of Helene, which may lend to the purchase of two subsidiaries - Just Jamie and Paulrich and Reggie & Co. The purchase is expected to be in excess of £20m.

· Oantas and British Airways will integrate their operations in Bangkok and Singapore. Quatas said that the new arrangements involve joint offices in both cities, as well as merged sales teams and operations. A spokesman said: "While maintaining our individual brands and identities, we believe our partnership has created the strongest overseas airline presence in the region and will provide exordinated services and better value for our customers."

• Club Mediterrance said last year's protests over French nuclear tests cost the company around £4m in lost revenue. However, the company said it was getting back to a "normal situation."

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SkyePharma in Swiss coup

MAGNUS GRIMOND

SkyePharma, the fledgling pharmaceutical group formerly known as Black & Edgington, is expected to more than quadruple its stock market value after buying Jago Holding, a Swiss drug research company, in a deal worth up to £305m. Jacques Gonella, owner of Jago, will be paid £105m in cash, £22.9m in rares and could pick up £167m over 10 years, under the carnout terms of the purchase. The acquisition comes just

Gowrie-Smith, in a £37m deal. The shares, quoted on the Al-ternative Investment Market, were suspended at 9p yesterday. Over the next 10 days, SBC Warburg is leading a "bookbuilding" placing and open of-fer to raise £135m from investors at home and overseas to finance the initial cash payment for Jago plus working capital. Existing holders can subscribe at the rate of between 105 and 125 shares for every 100 held after a one for 10 capital consolidation. The final price will depend on demand, but is four months after the former marquee-hiring group reversed into Krypton, a Gibraltar-based expected to be in the range of 84p to 100p a share. It is hoped that the shares will be relisted pharmaceuticals company conirolled by the chairman, Ian on the main market in April.

sented as a reflotation of tablet form, obviating the need SkycPharma. Mr Gowrie-Smith, who was the moving force behind the relaurch of Medeva as a generics-led drugs company, said vesterday. "It's been a long time in the coming, but my ambition is to create another pharmaceuticals compamy ... and I couldn't wish for more than bringing together

Jago and SkyePharma. Founded in 1983 by Mr Gonella, Jago claims a list of blue chip pharmaceutical companies for its drug delivery technologies, including Eli Lif-Procter & Gamble and SmithKline Beecham. The main one is Geomatrix, which

The Jago deat is being pre- controls the release of drugs in to take several doses in a day or increasing the ability of an active ingredient to target a par-ticular part of the body. By combining the technology with existing drugs. Mr Gowrie-Smith believes this could extend the protected life of pharmacauticals coming off patent over the next six years. The market for these so-called generics is expected to rise from \$4.3bn to

\$14bp over that period. The company already has three Geomatrix-linked products on the market in the cardio-vascular (high blood pressure (and anti-inflammatory

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN

Edited by TOM STEVENSON

Hammerson gets into shape

share price is 23 per cent lower than two years ago and less than half the level at which it entered the 1990s. The property company's net assets, which ended 1992 at 384p per share, finished last year at 370p. The dividentl, cut in half in 1992, nudged up yesterday but by a less than breathtaking 6.5 per cent.

The good news, however, is that the corner of the Brent Cross shopping centre looks in better shape now than at any point since Ron Spinney took over a hopelessly overextended, unfocused world-wide property investor in May 1993. Since then he has cleared out the dross, reduced debt and focused on a handful of markets where Hammerson sees growth.

That good news was just beginning to become evident in full-year figures reported yesterday, which showed a modest 5 per cent rise in rental income translated into a 22 per cent underlying rise in operating profits from £52.7m to f64.3m. a more meaningful figure than the reported number in our table which includes lumpy disposal profits.

Hummerson is now roughly in the

shape Mr Spinney always envisaged. About half the assets are in the UK, with a quarter each in Europe and North America, By asset class, the split is about 60/40 in favour of retail over offices.

That balance makes sense with Hammerson's porttolio revealing a wealth of growth potential from the shop assets compared with probably years of stagnation from offices. The retail assets are currently being rented at about 7 per cent below market rates, suggesting good growth. Offices, hy contrast, are on average pulling in 30 per cent more than Hammerson could achieve with replacement tenants. Fortunately, most leases still have a long

stretch to run, so the income is safe. In an era of subdued inflation, the challenge for property companies is to generate extra value for shareholders by reading cycles better than their peers. trading properties cleverly, buying the right sinck and managing assets astutely.

Most property companies, grown complacent on years of rising prices. do not have a clue how to do those things, Hammerson does, as it has clearly shown with its shrewd purchase and development of 99 Bishopsgate, a bombed-out office block in the City on which the company has already made a handsome turn. With luck it will do the same with its most recent purchase, Birmingham's ugly Bull Ring centre. Mr Spinney has laid a good set of

First the bad news. Hummerson's foundations. All he needs now is for Messrs Habgood and Williams bas been the £3.7m of bolt-on acquisitions anthe green shoots of the property recovery to take hold. In the meantime, a 17 per cent discount to forecast net assets of 400p, at yesterday's share price of 342p, provides a solid floor.

Bunzl's double act well received

When Anthony Hangood and David Williams took control at Bunzl in 1991, the rival paper groups Bowater (now Rexam) and Arjo Wiggins Appleton were sneezing and Bunzl was on the floor after a 1980s spending spree. After nearly five years of treatment by the duo, the roles have been reversed. Both the big groups are now suffering at the hands of the paper cycle, while Bunzl's distribution businesses have ridden out recent wild fluctuations in pulp (and

plastics) prices. Yesterday, the group announced pre-tax profits up a third to £106m, right a grocery distributor, will alone be at the top of expecations, and was warded with an 8p rise in the sha price to 209p.

The medicine administered

Trading record

Pre-tax profits (£m)

Earnings per share (pence)

Dividends per share (pence)

assets by country, £m

International spread

Market value:

114.2

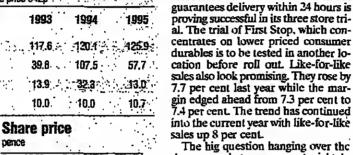
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to dump around a third of the business and concentrate on four areas, ranging from paper and plastic plates and the like to protective plastic caps for engineering parts, where it has leading positions. As a result, the group has seen net margins rise from 4.3 per cent in 1992 to 6.1 per cent last year, when return on capital topped a highly respectable 20 per cent, even after tak-

ng account of goodwill on acquisitions. The problem for management now is how to maintain the momentum of growth. Profits have risen at a faster rate than sales since 1992, showing compound growth of 25 per cent over that period, some eight points ahead of the expansion in the top line. But fatter margins will be harder to come by from here on. The huilding supplies business, the tast of the remaining serious underperformers, went in mid-1994.

Mr Hangood is confident that growth can continue and points to new husiness won in the key US market so far this year. Contracts with Supervalu,

worth in excess of \$400m over four vears. But to get things going, Bunzl may need to use its minimal 11 per cent gearing to huy something bigger than	price, no frills operation, which has caught the mood of the budget-con- scious 1990s. It also has plenty of scope for expansion The company now has 367 stores
OPE at a stunce 1969m, share price 342p	including 56 superstores. Another 31 will open this year. Argos Call and Collect stores which carries no stock but
1992 1993 1994 1995	guarantees delivery within 24 hours is proving successful in its three store tri-



The hig question hanging over the shares was what management might do with the company's £231m cash pile. After the failure with the Chestermans furniture deal, an acquisition would have been frowned upon by the City. The £127m special dividend is a safe option, though it will hit profits due to lower interest receivable next Analysts have downgraded accord-

nounced yesterday.

into the FT-SE 100.

sive to produce.

Despite a lowly forward rating of 12,

based on profits of £116m this year, the

shares may mark time until there are

Argos sidesteps

high street woes

Few retailers had a better 1995 than

Argos. As the catalogue retailer side-slepped the high street woes of many rivals, the shares cose by around 80 per

cent and finished the year by soaring

Yesterday's figures showed why. Profits were 24 per cent higher at £124m on sales up 14 per cent to

£1.4bn. This was in spite of higher costs

caused by an extended print run of the company's catalogues and rising paper prices which made them more expen-

Argos's secret has been its low

signs of further action. Hold.

ingly and BZW now expects profits of £133.5m this year. With the shares down 2.5p to 638p yesterday that puts them on a heady forward rating of 22. After last year's spectacular run. they now look fully valued.

Carling finds a whole new ball game in the NHS w that Will Carling is no per captain of the Engruphy team he rugby team he

land rugby team he can concentrate even harder on his commercial activities. How fitting that, having been carried off the Ireland game on Saturday with torn ligaments, our Will should this Wednesday be launching a healthcare appointments company.

Match Healthcare Services has been formed to place specialist medical and nursing staff within NHS trusts. A press hand-out declares: "The Eve Club on London's Regent Street, made famous by the affairs of the Hon Mr John Profumo and Miss Christine Keeler, will again play host to an affair of a dif-

ferent sort.
"This time the star player. is Will Carling, but on a considerahly less scandalous venture!" Nudge, nudge, as they say. Lets hope some paramedics are on hand if he falls over again.

On the same day Will's former team-mate Rob Andrew. will be trying to beat the longest world place-kick record as part of the 1996 Property Awards. Property. agents are obviously a rugby mad lot - Roh Andrew used to be one - and the London . Docklands Development Corporation took advantage of this last weekend. ...

The LDDC was attending the MIPIM property conference in Cannes, and won wide acclaim from the British contingent by setting un a buge screen in a marquee on the beach to show the England-Ireland match live. Locals were startled, ac-

The Methodist Church has just received an astonishing windfall of £92m from the sale of a plot of land in central Hong Kong. To be more accurate, the Council for World Mission, a small West-

Simon Jeffreys, employment partner at City solicitors McKenna & Co, rubs his hands with sice relating the story of a client who had a problem with an employee who was ...
"grossly abusing his sick leave". The client knew what was happening, but couldn't prove anything. Until, that is, the employee appeared on the front of an angling magazine proudly displaying an enormous carp. The photo caption revealed that the date this mouster was landed happened to be one of the dates when said employee had "thrown a sicky". He must have been gutted.



cording to our man on the spot, by the sudden hlast of the national anthem being bought from the Crown by the London Missionary Society in 1887, and two hospitals

belted out by 200-odd prop-

erty agents.

Argos, the catalogue retail company, leapt onto the mformation super highway nine months ago when it introduced shopping via the Internet. And the fruits of this Cybershopping so far? Since launch, 22 items sold.

minster-based charity with historic links to the ... Methodist Church, has suddenly found itself bigger than the British Red Cross.
According to the Methodist

years ago the CWM took over the bospitals, and three years ago it moved them elsehere and sold the site for £135m. With just 15 staff and 62 mission partners world-wide, the CWM now finds itself, in investment income terms, nearly as big as the National Trust. Mike Blackburn, chief executive of Halifax, is as fickle as the rest of us when it .

Recorder, the land was

were built on n. Nineteen

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comes to management gurus. Four years ago Blackburn was smitten by the then fashionable Tom Peters. After one session be commented; It's a bit like an evangelical meeting What did impress me was his stress on empowering people." Now Halifax are lead sponsors of two-day masterclass by management expert Gary Hamel.

Blackburn described this as a "very special event. Gary Hamel's work has been enormously influential ... his views have infinenced our approach to the analysis of

IN BRIEF

TT Group's full-year figures were welcomed in the City yesterday, with analysis nudging up their forecasts for the diversi-fied industrial group. After a 26 per cent jump in pre-tax profits for the year to December in £44.9m, current year forecasts were being moved up to between £52m and £53m. The company said demand for its products, which range from resistors to circuit board assemblies and suspended ceilings, had remained strong throughout the year with electronic components showing the strongest growth. Earnings per share rose 20 per cent to 19.5p while the dividend increased by a similar margin to 6.52p.

 Takare, the nursing home group, warned yesterday that in-dustry occupancy levels would not match those of last year. It said problems largely related to temporary local authority funding difficulties and this would be seen as a short-term dip in the group's traditionally high occupancy levels. The group added 1.050 beets in 1995, taking the total to 7.620, but said newly commissioned homes were taking longer to fill. Pre-tax profits inched ahead from £21.1m to £21.8m last year, hit by the decision to depreciate buildings. The dividend rises 13 per cent to 2.6p after a final of 1.7p.

	Turnover £	Pre-tax £	EPS ·	Dividend
Argos (F)	1 44bn (1,26bn)	124m (100m)	27 5p (22 Sp)	13.0p (t0 5p)
Astec (F)	372m (312m)	28.1m (21 0mt	7.33p (5.86p)	1.50p (1.2p)
Bunzi (F)	1.76bn (1 62bn)	106m (79.Em)	15 Sp (12p)	5 8p (5p)
Glynwed Ixtl (F)	1.25bn (1.02bn)	84.2m (67.1m)	25.76p 21.34pj	12.75p (12.25p)
Hammerson (F)	126m (120m)	57.7m (105m)	13p (34.3p)	10 65p (10p)
Manganese Bronze)	48 Om (41.1m	2.5m (2.0m)	10 11p (7.25p)	2.5p (2p)
Maybora 6p (F)	49 m (43.0m)	5 6m (4.9m)	18.8p (16 lpi	7.2p (6 4p)
Pearson (F)	1 83bn (1.55bn)	365m (298m)	47.1p (40 4p)	16.5p (15p)
Polypipe (1)	94 2m (84 7m)	9 67m (9 31m)	4 06p (3.99p)	0.83p (0.81pj
Royal Doction (F)	243m (228m)	15.2m (12.6m)	17.3p (15.4p)	8 5p (7 5p)
Takarê (F)	110m (90.0m)	21.am (21.1m)	14 3p (14 5p)	2.Ep (2.3p)
TT Group (F)	479m (397m)	44 9m (35 čm)	19 5p (16.2p)	6 52p (5 43p)
Vites Group (F)	132m (97 1m)	20.7m (20 1m)	52 3p (40.2p)	19.5 <i>p (</i> 9p)
Wilson Bowden (F)	228m (242m)	29 6nt (37 1m)	21 1p (27 1p)	10 0Ep (10 05p)

Glynwed pipes up 25% rise in profit,

RUSSELL HOTTEN

Glynwed, the Aga cookers to pipes business, suprised the city with a 25.5 per cent profits rise despite worries about the economic recovery.

Analysts edged up their forecasts for this year as the company reported profits of £84.2m and trading improvements in most key operations. Zafar Khan at Societe Generale Strauss Turnbull raised his forecast for this year by £4m to £102m.

About 66 per cent of Glynwed's market is in the UK, hut the company said that contin-

cent last year, would cushion it until the expected economic upturn at the end of 1996.

spending by the water companies. The metals businesses were also doing well, with volumes running at the same level as last year, despite fears of a slowdown in industrial output. Overall, group order intake is running at the same level as the last quarter of 1995," he said.

The group would be looking to make some non-core disposals in the construction materials division, while further ued growth in exports, up 35 per bolt-on deals were also possible. gearing to 40.9 per cent at end-

rn at the end of 1996. plastics' profits rose from £19.9m to £26.3m thanks to acexecutive, said the pipe business quisitions. A good start to the end of 1996. bad benefited from higher year in the consumer products division, which makes cookers. could not be sustained because. of high raw material prices and

profits slipped from £14m to

£12.1m. Disposals had helped minimise the company's exposure to the UK economic cycle. The £147.3m acquisition of Victaulic last August would also have a significant impact on reducing cyclical swings. The Victaulic purchase belped raise

HOW TO QUALIFY

Metals reported record prof- December, but Mr Ralph said its of £16.8m (£11.3m), while he was comfortable with the debt level and expected this to fall to around 25 per cent by the Victaulic's integration into

Other Spot Fire

Glynwed was progressing well It had strengthened the company's position as a world leader in water, gas, and related pipework systems.

The results include a four-

month contribution from Victaulic, which made an operating profit of £4.6m, before reorganisation costs of £1m. Group operating profits rose 25 per cent to £93m. The final dividend is 8.35p, lifting the total payout from 12.25p to 12.75p.

Weekend breaks with MINDEPEN

e would like to invite you to take a weekend break and stay two nights for the price of one. In conjunction with Queens Moat Houses Hotels, our offer allows you to pay for one night's bed and breakfast and get the next night, including breakfast, free. Rates are based on two adults sharing a twin or double room and the only stipulation is that your weekend

You can choose from 82 hotels located throughout the UK, ranging from country houses and cosy inns, to modem hotels in the heart of city centres. All are three or four star properties and many will allow you to enjoy a longer stay on the same basis, pay for two nights and stay for four, for example. You can check this when making your booking.

break must include a Saturday*.

To add to our offer, children under sixteen can stay free when shanng a room with two adults, plus children under six can breakfast free. For those of you who are feeling energetic, many of the hotels offer a Body Club or Club Moativation Health and Fitness Centre which you are free to

Pictured here is Stifford Moat House near. Grays in Essex. Set in six acres of landscaped gardens, which the hotel's elegant Regency restaurant overlooks, it offers a truly peaceful setting. A double room for two people for two nights costs just £60

Apart from the Royal Crescent Hotel, Bath and Billesley Manor near Stratford which are only available for state Sunday-Thursday. Some notets may be able to ofter min-week breaks on the same basis, please check





2 nights for the price of 1



The offer is valid until 5 May 1996. Some notels will extend the offer unal 26 May 1996. 5. please check when making your booking. This offer is only valid based upon two people shanng a twin double bedroom for a minimum

of two consecutive nights accommodation including full national breakfast. All reservations are subject to availability and aflocation of suitable pedrooms being available. Children under six years of age when sharing

a room with two adults will stay and out free

for bed and nappnal breakfast only. Children aged six to fifteen years when sharing a room with two adults will stay free and be charged £4 for national breakfast per child.

Oaktren accommodated in their own room will 9. be charged the same Independent rate as adults. No further discounts are applicable. Full payment, including extrast, is to be settled World departure from your selected hotel. The offer is only valid when you book discustQUEENS-LINE UK Reservations, 0645 113311. quoting "independent Offer" at the time of booking. Lines are open 8 am - 6.30 pm week

Campellations are to be notified to QUEENS-LINE UK Reservations as soon as possible and are accepted up to 4 pm on the proposed day

days, 9 am - 4.30 pm at weekends and Bank

10. This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer, or promotion and is not valid

HOW TO BOOK . For a Town & Country Classic Weekend Break brochure call 0541 543 500 quoting "Independent Offer". Once you have chosen your hotel call QUEENS-LINE UK Reservations on 0645 113311, quoting "Independent Offer". Your confirmation will then be sent out within 48 hours. Please remember to take your voucher and four differently numbered tokens to your

To qualify for your 2 for 1 weekend break, you must collect four differently numbered tokens

from the seven we are printing until Satur-

day 23 March. You will need to attach them to a voucher which we will print in tomorrow's

Independent: Today we are printing Token 3,

tomorrow we will print Token 4.

£7,000 OF WEEKEND BREAKS TO BE WON

hotel, they must be presented on arrival.

Today we are giving away four weekend breaks. Each prize entitles two people to a two night bed and breakfast weekend break at the hotel of their choice. For a chance to win one of our prizes, simply call the following number. 0891 252 999. You will be asked to answer one simple question and leave your name. address and telephone number. Calls cost 39n per minute cheap rate, 49p per minute at all other times. Four winners will be picked at random from all correct entrants after lines close at midnight tonight. Normal Newspaper Publishing pic rules apply. The Editor's decision is final.

Weekend breaks **EINDEPENDENT**

for special events, theatre breaks, helf-board

arrangements, futury weekends or weeksway

Offers only apply if the hotel is managed by a

company in the Queens Moat Houses Group

Photocopies of tokens and the vouchers are

The weekend break prizes are each worth up

to a maximum of £364 and must be taken be-

fore 31 August 1995, subject to availability

at the time a reservation is made.

business

This tantalising argument for easy money doesn't quite add up

The Governor of the Bank of England may feel that the appropriate stance for the central bank should be to err on the side of caution - as he said in Sweden yesterday - hut that would not be the market view of current UK monetary policy.

There are two main arguments for enring on the other side, the first of which has received a great deal of attention, the second of which has not. The first is that within Europe the principal danger remains one of deflation, not inflation, and the UK economy is sufficiently closely integrated with the Continental one that some overspill of this deflation is bound to take place. The second is the extent to which the UK natural rate of growth may have risen as a result of the structural changes which have taken place during the last few years. If this natur-al rate of growth has risen, it is argued, it should be possible to run the economy closer to capacity without running into capacity constraints. So the present easy money policy is less dan-

gerous than it might appear.
The second argument is a tantalising one because it is impos-sible to prove until after the event, in which case it may be too late. Eddie George was talking yesterday about the catastrophe of economic policy in the late 1980s when sterling shadowed the mark, leading to too loose a

ECONOMIC VIEW

HAMISH MCRAE

monetary policy and an unsustainable boom. But at the time the relaxed policy stance was justified, in part at least, by the argument that thanks to the structural changes of the 1980s. the economy had a capacity for faster growth. In short, exactly the same arguments were used

then as are being used now. Yet there ought to be some truth in it. If one looks not at the possible rise in the natural rate of growth but at the possible fall in the natural (or non-

of wage-generated inflation, in

The trouble is that what ought intuitively to be happening is not showing up in the figures

unemployment, it is clear that there have been an improve-lead times, and so can increase ment. The OECD calculates that the latter has come down at least a couple of percentage points: unemployment is now below g per cent and there is virtually no sign of a resumption

contrast to the situation in the late 1980s. The trouble is that when one looks at the growth of capacity it is very hard to demonstrate statistically that anything has changed at all. Intuitively it would be rea-

sonable to expect that a predominantly service economy would respond more quickly to changes in demand than a predominantly manufacturing one. Manufacturing plants take months, maybe years, to equip. Service industries do not in gen-

their output quite quickly by tak-

ing on more staff. The way that

employment has responded more quickly to increased de-

mand this cycle would support

intuitively to be happening is not showing up in the figures. The most useful work here is being done by the British Chambers of Commerce, which carries out a quarterly survey of capacity util-isation in manufacturing and in service industries. Since 1989 it has been asking both types of company whether they are op-erating at full capacity, and recording the percentage that say

than in investing in plant.

rapid expansion you would ex-

pect that to show up in rising

wage rates; if the shortage is in

computer software, rising prices

for software packages or (again)

wage rates for esperts; if in management, well, the way

round that is to out-source management by bringing in consul-tants - something that is clearly

taking place, but so far without

evident signs of strain.
The trouble is that what ought

You can see the problem. If service industry was really much more flexible than manufacturing you would expect fewer

they are. The results are shown

vice industry is not just proportionately smaler: it is also qualitative w: Afferent from that of a m . . cturing one. It is · tion of investing in trainer, or in computer software, or in management, rather If there is a shortage of trained staff because of over-

had more spare capacity, or rather fewer of them have claimed to be at full output. But the similarities are more noticeable than the differences. And at the end of last year there was no significant difference at all: 40 per cent of manufacturing firms were at full capacity. while 38 per cent of service firms were. This latter figure is the highest since 1989.

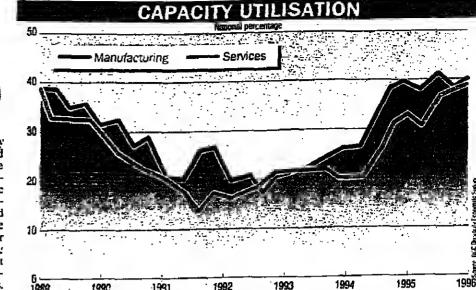
data does not go back before 1989, so it is hard to compare the situation now with that at the height of the last boom in 1987 and 1988. But some calculations by JP Morgan suggest that the comparable figure would have been about 44 per cent then. If that is right we are not quite as close to the limit, but not that far off it. Indeed the speed at which the recovery over the last two years mopped up capacity suggests that the natural growth rate of service industries may not even be as high as it was in the 1980s. JP Morgan's conclusion is that there is no sign of an increase in the UK potential growth rate.

Besides, investment in a ser- companies to report that they were at full capacity, you would expect more of them to be able to find ways of upping their out-put. Yet the two lines move pretty much together. Sure, service companies have tended through the recession to have

The Chambers of Commerce

Statistically that is right, but

I would like to think it is wrong.



How might we tell, without test- ed the shortages do not show up the proposition to destruction? The most sensible way forward, perhaps, is to listen to what firms are saying, in par-ticular about reasons why they

might be unable to expand. According to the Chambers of

in a sharp rise in wages, we do not need to worry about them. The market will signal if things are going wrong.

Premises is more of a surprise

for you might imagine, given the scale of the recession, that there Commerce, there seem to be two main constraints: people and many companies, particularly

Press on until there are clear signs of strain but be ever-ready to jack up interest rates

premises. Companies always complain that they cannot find good people, which may say more about their training and employment policies than about the underlying availability. But the proof of this particular pud-ding is in the eating, for provid-

small ones, do seem to have difficulties finding suitable property. There may be a constraint to growth there, but again the commercial property market is a transparent one, so it should be possible to pick up problems before they impact on inflation.

Where else might one pick up capacity constraints? General an obvious area, but our newest infrastructure - telecommunications - has vast overcapacity. There are things like congestion on the roads (services involve a lot of travel) but that is difficult to distinguish. Airport throughput is up sharply this year, but actual capacity constraints are hardiv evident.

So you end up with a rather unsausfactory conclusion: that there is no evidence that the natural rate of growth of our service-oriented economy has risen, but also no evidence yet of overheating. Policy conclusion? Press on until there are clear signs of strain, but be ever-ready to jack up interest rates to slow things down, if signals go to amber. Trouble is, they will do the first, but not the sec-George doubtless fears.

Foreign	Exc	hang	e Rate	es			
Sterling				Dollar			D-Mark
Country	Spot	1 month	3 months	Spot	1 month	3 months	Spc
us	15317	9-7	25-22	1000		~	0.67B
Canada	20834	. 17-9	41-28	19603	2-1	. 2-0	0922
Germeny	2.2580	57-50	155-145	1.4742	26-24	77-74	1000
France	7,7322	138-117	354-323	50483	58-50	150-140	3424
taly	23914	74-89	217-241	1561.3	· 58-65	170-182	10590
Japan	162.37	77-73	227-220	10601	48-47	132-130	· 71910
ECU	12213	5-12	45-40	12542	7-8	5-8	0.540
Belgium	46398	12.9	34-29	30.293	57-47	165-145	20548
Denmark	8,7258		407-319	56970	60-40	170-120	3864
Netherlands	25266	64-55	186-173	16496	32-29	93-48	1719
retand	0.9697	10-6	23-18	15796	3-6	7-12	0.429
Norway	98356	127-75	350-253	64218	50-25	135-85	4356
Spain	19008	37-47	112-129	12410	34-48	95-103	84,181
Sweden	10.289	12-18	29-40	8,7176	115-140 .	315-366	4.556
Switzerland	.18211	68-60	136-186	1.1890	. 97-34 :	110-104	0.6065
Australiu*	19795	18-30	60-78	12923	19-21	54-56	0876
Hong Kong	11842	-85-46	186-132	7.7313 .	. 2-12	15-35	5214
Materysia.	38896	.0-0	. 0-0	2.5995	4-14	60-80	17220
New Zealand	22460	41-65	125-148	14663.	30-32	. 68-90	0.9946
Saudi Arabia	57444	0-0	0-0	3,7506	2-7	9-14	2544
Singapora	21548	-00	0.0	14067 .	. 41-30	. 103-88	09542

	Spot Rai		•		
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Argentina	15319	09998	Nicreta	130.229 .	850000
Austria	15.8791	10.3673	Oman	0.5899	0.3850
Brazi	15108	09861.	Pakistan	52.8352	344855
China	12,7665	8.3327	Philippines	401410	28.2000
Egypt	52163	3.4066	Portugal	233669 -	152,560
Finland	70668	46125	Clater	5.5762	3.6417
Ghane.	23A89	1551.00	Firmata	740770	4835.00
Greece	369481	241160	South Africa	60319 -	39370
India	53,3168	348100	Taiwan	42,0546	27,4490
Kuwait ·	0.4583	0.2991	UAE	5.6274	35730
rate quoted	es quoted high low to high are counted as reci	at a premiunt		tract from spot of to spot rate	inin

Intere	est R	ates								
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Base	6009			300%	Prime	8.755			0.504	4
France		Lom	oard	500%	Discount	5009		rium	•	
Interventic	n 3809	Cam	de		Fed Funds	5.25	6 Disc	ount	300	6
italy		Prim	8	700%	Spain		- Cent	raf	330	i
Discount	9009	Diec	nunt	550%	10-Day Rep	a 8057	6 Switt	zerland	1	
Netharian	de	Deni	mark		Sweden		Disc	ount	1509	•
Advances	3009	Distr	ount	2,75%	Repa (Ave)	7859	6 Lorns	bard	4125	٠
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UK	800%	7/43	644	806	Neitherlands	_	535	6%	<u> </u>	_
LIS	5126	612	592	640	Spain	107/25	943	10.5%		
Japan	64%	191	31%	316	Italy	10 1/16	1021	20'68		
Austraša	87/4	8.62	10%	903	Belgium	74.%	558	6%%		
Germany	54%	531	6%	653	Sweden	11%	817	8%		
France	54%	592	745	669	ECU OAT	84%	647	TW		
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	Belglum(Francs)	44.7500	Grance (Drachmet	3830000	Portuge	(Escudos)	3270000
	Conedo (Dollars)	20250	Hong Korp(Dollar	I TLATOC	Speint	050134)	183.5000
	Cyprus(Founds)		Ireland(Pursts)		Sweder	(Kronor)	101700
	Derstatrk(Kroner)	8.4600	Refy(Ura)	2350000	Switzer	and(France)	17500
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Long Gèt German Bond	(Jun 96)	95.33	9549		505	109907	227912	Alumin	um Alby		1602-03		92-97		2157	763		1160
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Own Created Miles	(Jun 96)	93.82	53.93		3149	9074	76576	Tin			6160-70		5-200		1812	954	s .	265
3M Euro S	Mar 96	9456	-	-		0	,	Zinc			1072-73		95-96		220	626		2725
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EGU	(Mar 96)	9531	9531		530	250	5110	600	hange rat	25.	1.528	6	14736	105.90		at Frida	ry 15 March	
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Acres Storm	Porty Yr ago POST 1658 POSE 1656 POSE 1653 Index 18.15 POSE 2017 Index 18.15 POSE 2017 Index data	91/39 19/02 142/79 162/88 Gass off (\$\frac{1}{2}\$, PE cluss Apr 174.7 Mary 1662 Apr 174.7 Volt 1 rept proces are re-	59/57 89/81 108/97 133/110 /tomee) "chg 5 +775 5 +750 5 +550 7,847 get to mark	WTI WIII Will May Jun July Aug Source K	\$183 \$1007 \$122 \$175 \$955 \$86 \$840 \$55	19/119 43/136 80/148 80/148 89/166 Products † Spoi CF NW Euro Leaded Gascline Naghtha EC Gasoil Heavy Fuel Of SCSI the YTD Year spo	(\$/forme) ope 182:195 175/177 190/134 107/108 ppt:46	Cocoo LCE Mar May July Vol: Wate ! LCE May Aug Cod Vol:	\$75 895 917 5,376 Segur \$8500 370.70 33450	Coffe LCE Mar May July Vol: Ram : LCE May Jul Oct Vol:	2155 1944 1974 4133 August Carca/ka 1190 1190 1190	Mar May Sept Vol: Freigh LCE & Mar Apr Vol:	E/tonne 10890 10965 10620 8 1 10640e pt 1448 1538 560	Apr May Jun Vol: Wheat LCE May July	62.80 16900 22500 183 £Amre 1790 1985	ATA Apr May Jun Vol: Corn CBO	260 295 310 611 T Cents. ¹ H+Lo 39175-36E0 38450-3860	Series 0 391
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European 8d inc E-empt	78.37	83,75	. 4	165 Bishopegela, London Tab 0171-374 4700, Deci	ECZN S	FT	
Financial	92.67	99m 538u	24 d257	American Growth	7735	DC36	(S)(DQ
500 General	305.9	3285	d249	(Accum Unite) -	7734 6494	6945	9000
Property Trustee	2399	257A 226B	232	Arrair Smill Cos (Accum Units)	863.5	7095	000
Income Trusts				Capital Tet	367LB	3023 5008	122
Cash Acc Cash Inc	1215	1215	525	(Accum Units) Conti Smir Cos	89.72	67.68	0.78
Detribution	109.7	1103	481	(Accum Linits) . Convertible	672 5 1368	7154 1458	9.76 5.16
Extra Income Git & Fad Int*	1321 56.63	58.53	dBS4	(Accum Units)	2905	3000	5.18
income	5686	6082	472	Emerging Mericula (Accum Units)	68.66	73.35 73.59	000
income Builder Intil Income	6719	71.66	d55	European	1331	1475 1550	049
Growth Trusts - UK	132.7	1415	d203	- (Accum Units)	1322	250 2484	2.65
Capital Growth Acc	3963	1227	215	(Accum Linte) Extra income	77.78	79.29	285
Leisure (2)	4699	1765 5025	102 265	Extre income (Accum Units)	372D 578J	395.7 6160	d386 d386
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Amer Recovery ACC · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	2810	2399	202	Income & Growth	2185	2224	322
Aust Inc	188A	2060	202	(Accum Units)	34E	4509	000
Euro Gwith Acc Euro Gwith Inc	1798	1908	082	(Accum Units)	4695	5008	000
Japan & Gen Acc	1593	1686	d	Japan & Gen	175.7	1873	4000
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Aiso known as income t		9P.	-	Menaged Portfolio inc (Accum Units)	127.0	133.7	270
laring Fund Manager O Box 831, 158 Sistops	gata.			Manthly Income	5481	1954 684	0410 0440
arden ECZN 3Y5			•	(Accum Linits)	वय	85.55	44.40
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Eastern Equity income	9102	974	3.5	Colonelle Droubrisett Little	t Trust i	karagéri K	1,30
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Portfolio Apri UK Growth	263 9245	200	26	(Accum Units)	6680	69.78	040 D
UK Smaler Cos	22.73	9663	25	FP Artier Smile Goe	2959	2042	0
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India. Agricultural Energy Indust? Metals	1970=100 1970=100 1983=100 1977=100	19650 2916 6814 18821	+0:	27 28175 40 71 7131 4 57 19332 -2	121 24 145 5 164 191	5.56 7.35 7.08 9.70	+1307 +1367 +1936 -576	Mar/Apr Copra (1) May Cotton (N	S/100 S/100 M) UScent
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Trust	Pri	ces		0.00					
Stock	Seti	Suy	Yki	Stock	Ses	Buy	YId	Stock	Self
Notional Accum (units) Equity income	920 3488	46.60 2034 3689	451	Wwite Recovery Inc Winde Recovery Ac	452.02 452.03	48345 48345	3.20 d0.51 0.51	(Accum Units) Euro Smir Cos	93.36 93.36
(Accum Units) European & Ben	472A 816.8	6523	0.9	American Growth Inc	297DG	310.46 310.46	DD7	(Accum Units) Far Eassern Owth	105.85
(Accust Units) European Dwide		8460	362 362	European Gwith Inc	175.51 176.71 284.81	158.07	0.93 0.93 0.04	(Accum Units) Bit & Fixed Interest	T0.38 50.21
(Accum Units) Extra Yield (Accum Units)	4526 4609	4580 544.9	92.5	ind Emerging Cos in ind Emerging Cos Ad Fer Eastern Growth	28480 nc 30980	30440 30480 33144	0.04	(Accum Units) Global Bond (Accum Units)	73.24 52.57 6090
Far Elistern (Accum Units)	3843	408A 542.2	Ø108	For Eastern Growth &	108.77	11420	027	(Accust Units)	56.58 56.52
(Accum Units)	586.5 1286.5	7051 12396	203	High Income	107A9	122.72 114.97	102	(Accum Units)	39149 1298.73 1
(Accum Units)	66.70 123.8 59.38	70.50 2051 5944	382 382 675	Jepanese Gwth Acc PEP Growth	213.96 213.96 141.16	22856 22856 18093	0001 001 079	Japan Smir Cos (Accum Units)	43835
(Accurs Linter) Bots	174.0 8150	174.25 86.20	475 D34	PSP Bond Assan Smit Micts Inc.	49.57	5178 14886	7.5.0 0.01	(Accum Units) Pacific Gwth	6758 6758 15806
(Accum Units) High Income	95.78 31.90	7024 33.78	004 473	Alten Smir Wits Acc American Smaller Co	13833 a Inc 16895	1490Z 2035	0.01	(Accum Units) Sepul	184.79 48.67
(Accum Unes) Ind Growth	133.2 0180	9720	473	American Smit Cos a Blobal Bond	55.64	20306 5863	0.01 05.56	(Accum Units) Smaller Cos	48.67 271.87
(Accum Units) Internitornal Inc	161.7	1173	445	UK Smaller Cos Inc UK Smaller Cos Acc	102.75 108.02 53.68	10891	144	(Accum Linis) Tokyo	32125 12635
(Accum Units) Jepen & Gen (Accum Units)	#24 #50 4450	4520	445	Money Acc Latin American Gwth Latin American Gwth	Inc 3129	5368 347 3423	5.50 0.07	(Accum Units) Un Engagnise (Accum Units)	32092
Japan Smaler C		605		Exempt Punds UK Exempt	352.42	376.82	272	UK Equity (Accust Units)	39188 28400 56462
Managed Growt	26.50	30.00	177 0423	Oversom Exempt Prudential Unit True	30797 to Ltd	12930	D71	US 9me Cos (Accum Units)	21907
(Accum Units)	9050 2060	2201	349	\$1-59 Mord HSL (Mord, Managed Tat	ENEX, 191	46.05	158	Portfolio (Accum Unes)	91.00
Person Er Recovery (Accum Units)	10364 4760 8030	5030 6478	437 263 263	Cash Haven Inc Cash Haven Acc	10127 11642	101.76	506 506	European	291.91
Second General	73.70	7790	36	Des Inc Des Acc (Sobal Growth	103.57 113.25 103.06	10732 11736 10955	855 655	(Accum Units) Euro Smir Cos (Accum Units)	3473 3473 3731
STREET COL (Accum Units)	7170	7580	4337 4397	Prudertiel Equery Inc.	9043 83339	96.20 886.37	455	Global Equity Inc	90.46 95.35
Tremery Trume	25.4 -2.50 278.3	45.0	4.74 4.74	Prudential European High Income	90.77	255.75 98.56	0.78 5.26	Japan Smir Coe (Accum Units)	3746 3776
(Accum Unds) Martin Corrie Us		100.7	~	tryl Gren tryl Sm Co Jaconson	219.59 94.48 273.38	10051	058	Alogd Balanced (Accum Units)	21616 252.26
20 Cooks Person, Edinburgh, EN 1 25 Tel: 0131 229 5252	S Penting 0171 A	THE ANGL		Nth Amer Pacific Mitts	235.57	23143 24390 2565	113	Oversage Equity (Accum Units) Overs Smir Cos	220.86 230.68 145.18
He income	9C24	85.19 106.5	153.91 110.77	Premering Sm Cos	47.79 107.43	4875 114.28	673 139	Pacific	153.00 286.50
No American (2)		96,82	64.53 632	Spec Sits UK Growth	13822	13015 14830	2.55 2.09	(Accum Units)	316EE 2234EB 2
Par Elect (z) Japan	178.7 50.47	1897 6419 9563	003 d	Sara & Prosper Sec 16-22 Western Road,				JACOUM United UK Indian. (Account Limite)	242529 2 17482 21993
Emerging Market Ind Growth UK Growth	1778	1357 1215	2.52 2.52	Remierd, Essex Rish 3 Tet. 01706-756005 Amer Inc & Gurfi	902T	95.97	321	UK Small Cos (Accum Units)	131,35
Asian Opportunit	5721	6137	030	Amer Smir Cos Assen Smaller Cos	1425	152.8 48.01	d	US Smir Cos (Accum Lints)	6406 65.51
Gotel Growth P	P 84	6331	0.74	Capital Porticilo UK & Overses	3046	153.8 203.5	187 131	Singer & Priedlander 21 New Street, London, I	FC2M AHR
71 Owner Victor's Clients 0500 55000	St. Landos EC4	4DR 80000		Cash Chine Dragon	132.2 63.90	132.2 5801	0571 146	American Growth	tog: 0171 821 12751
Dealing 0500 4400 American	52.89	56,27	220	Commodity Eastern Decovery	1553	1652 1164	a	Aziec Europeen	68.03
American Acc Bridge	5230 9826	55,70 102,40	245	Emerging Mariers Energy incs	3925 1500	1602	d0.24	Global Bond Samural	94.95 56.48
Cash Acc Cash Income	5745 5075	5075	548 548	European Gwith Euro Inc & Gwith	2234 9048 6896	237.7 98.26 73.38	1.74 1.74	Starting Reserve	10133
Encopera	10038 5157	55.78	0239	Euro Smir Cola Exempl income Extra incomé	1478 6448	1508 5828	C3.81	UK Growth UK Emerging Looders	107.65
General General	20350 204 27567	22450 39586	258 147 6135	Prancial Secs Gir & F.c. Int Inc	2049	2518 4996	0.91 20.09	Preferred Income UK Equity Income Instituted Trust	10489 113.03 106.78
Growth Growth Acc	17557 13673 13673	14758	231 231	Gold & Exploration High Return	113.1 248.7	1203 2646	401	Singer & Friedlander	Unit Mgm
Higher Income In	3212	32.64 3745	546 546	High Yield Income	277	2628 1356	G318	Far Eastern Tot	81.55 71.42
income international Son	254.35	27059 12158	3.31 5.95	Inti Bond	168.8 230.9	178.3 245.6	±5.82 070	Global Growth PEP treestream Trust PEP	7363 545
hand Japan	13944 2597	145.25	190	Japan Growth Japan Smaller	1754	1555 1863		Preterred Income Smaller Cas	102.7 249.8
Oriented Ace Oriented Income	16574	175.00	0.36	Kores Letin America	3756 3756	8356 40.29		Standard Life Unit Tru POSor 141,1 Tenfield,Et	
Personal Inti Gwi Northarn Rock L		9861	000	Masterfund Scottsta	4002	6715 4257	0.87	Standard Life Fund N	ingrat Ltd
Buieses House, Re Newcastle upon Ty	gent Centre, God			Socialismos Socialismos	3336 207:	3549 2841	197 d2.83	Global Adventage Inc Global Adventage Acc	46.23 48.01
Exeptione: (2191)		TIAB	250	Select Ind Smeller Cos Inc	153.4 250.0	163.2 298.0	5372	income Advantage Inc income Advantage Acc	3956
Northern Rock H	igh incompt637		655	SE Asia Southern Africa	6884	7302	153	UK Equity Gat Acc Premier Income Inc	68.67 4750
Pembroke Admi 37-11 Bestord Ros	Landon WC1R	4111		Special Substant UK Equaty	2785	168.5 234.2 80.97	1.79 2.46 1.84	Premier Income Acc Managed Acc	49.24 59.64
Telephone & Deelin Perntucke Growt	226.50	24096	153	UK Growth UK Grain Cos Gwith	76.11 5721 205.6	80.65 218.7	d1.32	UK So High inc inc UK En High inc Acc	3094 5178
Permissia vioria Permissia Balana Permissia Eq Inc	ed 20675	20207 20207	226	U.S. Growth Univ Growth	2574	1674	0.49	Standard Life Tot May UK Equity Gen Acc	72.86 5310
Perpetual Unit T				Schroder Unit Trust Seaster Hee. & Cover	s Laci Victoria Str	eet, Lond	1 10	UK Etgatry Gen Inc. Gar & Fast Ins Inc. Otseas Larg Cos Acc	31.47 365.2
Perpatual Hea Harriey on Toneses				CREATE: 0800 B25 536 B	traker: Asso	526 540		Nith American Act Pacific Statin	58-23 -5745
Tel: (1)491 417000 transported Cort interrotional Got		72728 73013	049	Retail Funds American (Accum Units)	332.75 368.07	362.79 38819	D\$4 D\$4	Japan Acc European Acc	2777 5818
AUSTRALIA CALL	- HGU 90207	100E		Industry (III III)	a.qui	الدويي			

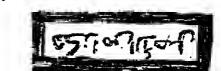
118	Aug 370.70 Jul Oct 33450 Oct Vol: 1,976 Vol:	119		560	July	1985 122.00 377	May 384.	75-38E.00 50-380.00 50-370.50	384
'n	Other So	ts							
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•	Stock	Self	Buy	Yhd	Stock		Self	Buy	YI
9	European Gwth (Accum Unds) Euro Smir Cos	93.36	9905	0.81 180	45 Churksto	o 5a, Eak	Trust Mgm nburgh EHZ	44VT	
	(Accum Units)	105.85	TTÚ7	030	American		0131 228 \$2 5093	5400	
3	Far Eastern Owth (Accom Units)	77,23 TQ.38	778.64 120.93	000	British		7279.8	636.7 1290.5	630
1	(Accum Units)	50.21 73.24	52.94 7732	d778	(Accum U	Markets.	23347	2470.0 158.9	30
7	(Autum Unes)	52.57 60.90	5432 6293	6.94 6.94	(Accum U		151.0 661.5	7041	0.7 0.8
5	(Acctum Units)	56.58 58.52	6038	000	Japan U		742.3 1351	7900 1435	0.5
2 ((Accum Units)	39149 129873	41758 1385.38	4520 4520	New Pace	ic	136.2 442.3	1446 4711	13
	Japan Smir Cos (Accum Units)	43835	46225	000	(Appun U	er Tipa	4715 252.5	502.2 2676	1.3 GB
,	Japan Enterprise	6758 8758	72.09 72.09	000	(Accum U Magd Equ		290.9 168.5	308.3	0A
	(Accum Units) Pacific Gwrh (Accum Units)	15806	175.77	d048	Mngd Equ Mngd Cas	Ry Acc	2246 9830	2377 9630	15
1	Secul (Accum Units)	4867	SUST SUST	000	(Account U	ntel	142.3	1423	56
	Smaller Cos (Accum Units)	Z/187 32125	28939 34266	114	Sun Life T PO Box 181 Bristof B39	o. Dept F	gmt Ltd VPD.		
5	Toleyta	128.35	134 77	d000	Eng: 0171-6	DE 4044	Daulings: 017	1-606 5010	1
	(Accum Units) Un Emprorise	12763 32092	342.31	216	Amer Grove Cap Prote	caor Inc	69.03 45.28	94.47 48.17	00 28
	(Accust Units) UK Equity (Accust Units)	39188 26400	418.00 302.53	255	Cap Prote Distribution	n inc	5746 2631	6113 2799	28 d33
1	US 9mir Cos	56462 2007	23367	2.55 0.00	Emerging Euro Grov		2758 Acc 2178	29.34 23.6	d3.3
1	(Accum Units) Portfolio	21907 9100	23387 9708	0.00 d2.13	Far East 0		162,35	172.71	99
	(Accum Unes) Institutional Funda	100.36	10735	D273	Japan Gro		112.36	1927 3698	000
	(Accum Linits)	291.91 345.72	292.73 328.87	140	Mingd Ext	ra incom	08.90	4566 7585	51
	Euro Smir Cos (Accum Ungs)	3473	38,17	125	Wings High Wings High	Yeld in	C 85.34	9078	044.
1	Global Equity Inc. (Accum Union)	90.46 95.35	9422	0.98	Vingo inc Vingo inc	8 Gilh Inc	. 8253	8790 110.32	3.3
	Japan Smir Coe (Accum Units)	3746 3776	3902	010	Discretions Pacific Gire	ary Ports	olia 5701	6056 5732	400 400
	Alogd Balanced (Appum Units)	21616 252.26	225/6 262.76	d291 d291	LIK Growt	ACC:	8716	92.72	22
	Oversage Equity (Accum Units)	22026 23068	23006	116	Lift income	Acc	96.73 96.93	6036 92.48	32
	Oscas Smir Cos	145.18 153.00	6122	d113			39.76 nagers Ltd en Street, Lo	42.30	171
	(Accum Units) Pacific (Accum Units)	286.50 316.68	298.53 32987	121	IBC: 0171-24	# 300gg, C	Needing: 0171	ndon EC44 245 3001	
1		223466	232780	312	(Accum U	Europe B	d 4441 7131	4613	d6.1
	UK Index (Accust Units)	242529 17482	2526.34 181.95	344	(Accum U	nds)	32737 33297	34279	60
	UK Small Cos	2993 13135	22891 13682	344 d260	Émmpt (Accum U		61883 211873	64747 2216.83	21
	(Accum Units) US Smir Cos	14419 E405	66.71	053	(Accum U	erging M	kts 8549 9366	89.54	01
.	(Accum Lints) Singer & Priedlander :	65.51	68,24	053	Jepen 7st (Accum U		8051 8051	8430	-
	21 New Street, London, E Tet 017: 867 8777, Deals	CZM 4HR			Little Drag	ons	9956 10249	8430 10425	
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Ί.	Aziec Europeen	68.03	66,03 158,30	0.28	(Accum Un Onertial In		366.07 4790	383.31 5015	21 31
. }	Global Bond Samurul	94.95 56.48	94.95 68.46	8.35	Profesence	,	131106	6943 19618	31
	Starting Reserve Tail Pain	10133	10133 10596	6.00	(Accum ta Tiger	nis)	735.19 308.27	768.83 322.79	A
	UK Growth UK Emerging Loaders	10785	107£5 109£7	2.31 2.76	(Accum Un Un Base C		323.87 72.05	33903 7544	51
	Preferred Income	10489	17303	569 534	(Accum UI	nits)	7858 61245	82.78 841.30	3
	Investment Trust	108.78	108.78	189	(Accum U	Ma)	1410.58 T1009	147704	24
	Singer & Friedlander (European Trust	ink Mgn 8155	8707	106	(Access) Ur	WIN I	373.30	393.97	51 53
	Far Eastern Tot Global Growth PEP	7142 7353	75.97 78.32	026	UK Mid-Ca (Accum Ur	rits)	39060 572.50	314 <i>7</i> 6 509,47	50
	INVESTIGAT TRUST PEP	5425	37£	000	UK Smir C (Accum U		119.39 142.59	12768	905
	Preferred Income Smaller Cas	102.7 249.8	2657	5.50 108	UK Smalle (Accum Ur	COS DA		98.75	57
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١	POSer 141,1 Tenfight,Eth 0000363777				Key				
	Standard Life Fund M. Global Adventage Inc	46.23	4546	d'us	d e		vidend charge wh	en unde	SOL
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	UK Sq High inc inc	3094 5118	4234 6426	418			fund man		

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market report/shares

Unitech turns out to be the winner in takeover bets FT-SE 100 3669.6+24.8 FT-SE 250 Shares of Unitech, the electronic components group. 4244.5+17.3 soared 173p to 688p as the FT-SE 350

stock market awaited the sig-nalled takeover bid from Siebe. 1844.2+11.4 The surge means that half SEAQ VOLUME 576.1m shares. favourite bets has turned out to be a winner. Unfortunate-31,132 bargains ly most speculators had ig-Gilts Index nored Unitech, opting for the other half of the two-way bet.

Eurodisc Electron. It all started when Elektrowatt, the Swiss group con-trolled by the Credit Suisse bank, acquired Landis & Gyr, an electronics group. To help meet the £1bn outlay the Swiss decided to sell peripheral investments, including 29.4 per cent of Unitech and 42 per cent ponents company they helped

put together last summer. Much of the speculation swirled around Eurodisc, which seemed to be the more likely takcover target.

In the event, Uniteeh, which missed the speculative whirl, has become the bid target while Eurodisc still awaits a suitor. The activity was enough to lift Eurodisc 11p to 295p. It of one of the market's has been as high as 312p with the market talking of a bid in

the region of 360p. Unitech is likely to fall to Siebe, the engineer. Late on Friday it disclosed it had picked up 25 per cent and had options on the rest of the Swiss stake. Talks will now take place. Uniteeh, which controls Nemic Lambda, a Japanese power supply group, is thought to want any bid to

include a cash alternative. Some, such as Societe Generale Strauss Turnbull, expect any bid to be worth 750p; others hover around 650p. Siebe

lost 18p to 826p.

The rest of the market moved ahead although trading was rather lacklustre. The FT-SE 100 index jumped 24.8

MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN Stock market reparter

of the year

ble to a bid.

Lyonnaise Laing support.

Banks continued to recover

from last week's mauling

prompted by the lending war.

denied reports of a £5n deal with United Arab Emirates. It did confirm that Lucas Indus-

tries' chief executive, George

Simpson, would succeed Lord

Weinstock as managing direc-tor. Lucas, little changed at 192p, is now seen as vulnera-

National Power and Power-

Gen, somewhat surprisingly.

greeted a delay in the monop-

olies examination of their pro-

GEC fell 5p to 359.5p as it

uing takeover speculation and a firm New York opening the main influences. Dividend pay-ments, representing 11.8 points, masked the strength of

Cable and Wireless, reflecting the potential BT interest, gained 9.5p to 485p. BT rose 4p to 351.5p. A Cable take-out price is the subject of intense debate. The group's overseas interests, including its controlling stake in Hongkong Telecom, cloud the issue. Lehman, the US securities house, puts the bid price between 570p and 670p.

posed moves into the regional electricity industry by moving ahead. NP rose 9.5p to 471p Insurance shares were firm, largely on the back of Credit

and PG 11.5p to 51Sp.

Allied Domeco, the retailing

and spirits group, rebounded 10.5p to 491p after Friday's selloff. Takeover hopes were said to be responsible for the recovery. United Biscuits, another group where a bid is seen as a possible solution to its problems, firmed 4p to 246p. Zeneca, another takeover

favourite, ended 8p lower at 1,375p after stripping out a near 25p dividend. Elsewhere on the drugs front, Stanford Rook gained 30p to 510p ahead of figures and Skye-Pharma was duly suspended at 9p to accommodate a major ac-

BAT Industries had a volatile session, despite a "clear the air" over its legal problems in the US. The shares ended 12p lower at 488p after hitting 482p. They were tormented by a sharp fall in the shares of Philip Morris, the US group unsettled by Administration.

NFC, the old National Freight Corporation, which has had a torrid time in recent years as a succession of profit warnings have devastated the casts for the current year shares, moved ahead 3p to 155p with NatWest Securities making positive noises. The shares, it said, could be about to turn"

The day's profit warning was contributed by Rainford, an electrical equipment group, which slumped 92p to

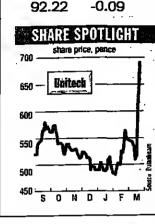
A warning that write-downs could result in an \$87m loss hit 26p. XCL, the oil exploration group, 3p to 16p. The shares were 102p in October.

Figures helped some shares higher. Pearson put on 7p to 664p; Doeflex, the chemical group, 20p to 238p and TT, a mini conglomerate, 18p to

one of its executives giving evidence to the Food and Drug which has suffered three years of losses, should be back in the black when it reports next week. Up to £2m profit is expected against a £3.7m loss last time. Foreare around £4m. The shares rose 4p to 91p.

> Dana Petroleum improved 0.5p to 8.5p, reflecting the clearing of a big stock overhang. The company operates in the former Soviet Union and Henderson Crosthwaite calculates growth potential could take asset value to

> Radio First, traded nn Ofex, has acquired the Mellow 1557 radio station. based at Colchester. It paid £225,000 in cash and shares. Further deals are expected. The shares arrived at 45p in October: they closed at 65p.



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Banks, Retail Grin and Tonic.

a Bermuda, warrath and hospitality are a way of life, he pace is easy and relaxed and the aervice first-class, conder Bermuda is known as one of the most welcoming and civilised places on Earth.

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Lo Stregone's odds as Grand

National favourite are now as

The state of the s

Flat advice to keep punters on the level

MICHAEL BELL "Go With The Wind, who ran twice as a two-year-old, will go for an all-weather maiden soon for that third run which will entitle him to a handicap mark. He will be suited by a mile or more this season. Doctor Bravious has had three runs, landed an allweather maiden over an extended mile at Wolverhampton in January and has been given a handicap mark of 70. I think that's lenient and he might be

JACK BERRY Mind Games, chosen for this list

aimed for a handicap at Kemp-

ton's Easter meeting."

in 1994 and 1995, completes the hat-trick. "He'll go for all the top sprints over five furlongs and may bid for the Haydock Park Sprint Championship over six in September. However, his main target is the Numberpe over five furlongs at York in August. He won't be making such an early start this year. The Temple Stakes at Sandown in May will probably be his first race. My Melody Parkes will be aimed at the 1,000 Guineas and will probably run in the Nell Gwyn Stakes over seven furlongs at the Craven meeting first. She's by the 1983 Derby winner, Teenoso, and absolutely certain to stay a mile."

CLIVE BRITTAIN "Rabinda won the Houghton Stakes at Newmarket last October. Has wintered very well and, a son of Old Vic, will be. suited by a mile and upwards.

Amfortas, who is by Caerleon, has been showing ability at home and will also be suited by a mile. He has plenty of speed. NEVILLE CALLAGHAN "Danehill Dancer, runner up to Alhaarth in the Dewhurst, is

2.20 Wild West Wind

3.20 Bitacrack

2.50 Valiant Toski

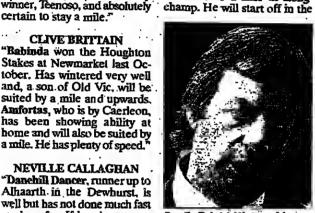
3.50 My Rossini (nb)

he may go for the Greenham Stakes at Newbury - he would have to carry a penalty in Newmarket's Craven Stakes as he won two Group One races last year - and will then go for the 2,000 Guineas. I'm hopeful he will stay a mile, but I've known horses show form at seven furlongs as two-year-olds that have ended up being best at six, Tarawa won the £35,000 Ladbroke Autumn Handicap at Newmarket last backend and is a progressive four-year-old who may go on to better things this year. A mile suits him well."

HENRY CECIL

"Phantom Quest is a nice maid-en three-year-old by Rainbow Quest who should win a race. Bright Water is a three-year-old by Caerleon who last October won a mile maiden at Yar-mouth. Hopefully, he will make up into a Group-class per-former at a mile and a half."

PETER CHAPPLE-HYAM "Astor Place won a 23-runner seven furlongs maiden in good style at Newmarket and then ran well when beaten only around three lengths into fifth behind Loup Solitaire in the Grand Criterium over a mile at Long-



work so far. If he pleases me, Cecil: Bright Water shines

4.20 Call The Shots

Left-hand course, from in of 170yd.

Course is SE of from ne 95017. Uttowiser station (Derby-Crewe line) adjoins course, AD-INSSION; Club 515 (CAPs 512); Tatterants 510 (CAPs 57); Course 53. CAR PANOE Free.

3.20 CARLING PREMIER NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £3,600 added 2m 5f Penalty Value £2,579

3.50 HOOPER'S HOOCH HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS B) £7,000 added 3m 110yds Penalty Value £4,947

SS ZZ

4.50 Current Speech

5.20 General Tonic

With the Flat turf season season commencing at Doncaster on Thursday and the Newmarket Craven meeting only four weeks away, trainers are starting to get serious with their strings and already have a fair idea what 1996 will hold for them. Some have reason to believe the next few months will bring Classic success, others are hoping to land coups in handicaps. Game-plans are being drawn up and strategems devised.

Last March, Peter Chapple-Hyam was aleady in the position of being able to predict in us early success for the subsequent Craven

Craven and then run in the

Dante. By Sadier's Wells, he

may be a Derby colt. Heron Is-

land is another Epsom type. He won a 17-runner mile maiden at

the St Leger meeting before fin-

ishing two and a half lengths

fourth to Even Top in the Somerville Tattersall Stakes

over an inadequate seven fur-

We'll start him off in the Feilden

Stakes over nine furlongs at the

Craven meeting and then he'll go for one of the Derby trials."

ROGER CHARLTON

'Cap Juluca, who improved

about 7lb with every race last

season, ending up rated about 112 by the Handicapper after winning the Cambridgeshire.

He is expected to make up

into a Group-race performer at 10 furlongs. He's eligible for

conditions races so I'll start him

off in one of those in May and

then look for a Listed race. If

he improves another 10lb, he'll

make a Group Two horse. If he

improves even more, we might

even think about races like the

Eclipse, Private Song is a nice American-bred by Private Ac-

count who will be suited by a

mile to 10 furlongs. He finished

a promising half-length second

on his only start as a two-year-

old in an 18-runner maiden over

seven furlongs at Doncaster

ngs at Newmarket in October.

Stakes winner Painter's Row, while David Loder was keen un the unraced juvenile Appland, who went no to win the Cherry Hinton Stakes. Not every horse will realise its notential but with patience, following a list of hurses can be a fascinating alternative to form-book study - and can throw up up big-price winners.

The horses listed here, which include unexposed handicappers, unraced maidens and possible winners of the 1,000 Guineas, 2,000 Guineas, Oaks, Derby and St Leger, give the punter something with which to go to war.

PAUL COLE

"Riyadian has wintered very well and, if he comes up to scratch, the main target this year will be the King George at Ascot. He acts on any going and, although he ran well when two lengths second to Spectrum in the Champion Stakes over 10 furiones, will race only at a mile and a half this year. Leonine, who ran a bit green when a short-head second in the six furlongs Convivial Stakes on his debut at the York August meeting, then returned to the same track a fortnight later to win a maiden over the same trip. He will make a fair miler this year. I'll start him off in one of the lesser Classic trials, maybe the one at Thirsk over the round mile, although if he really pleases in the next few weeks we might think about the Greenham.

LUCA CUMANI "Humourless, who is by Nashwan out of a staying mare, had three runs last year hut was rather backward. He was beaten about five lengths into fourth place in a 17-runner maiden over a mile at Leicester on his final start, Hopefully this year, as he matures and tackles longer distances, he should make a useful performer. Select Few, by Alzao, also had three runs last year and, on his last outing won a Goodwood maid-

en over a mile in good fashion. He will be suited by 10 furlongs. Both horses are likely to be ready to run in April."

JOHN DUNLOP "Nwaamis had a lot of physical problems last year but hopefully he is over them. As he has won only one race, he is eligible for a lot of conditions races and I want to get a sweetener into him in a minor contest before thinking about a Group race and he may run in the Donesster Mile on Thursday, Bint Salsabil, although she may turn out more of an Oaks filly, will be aimed at the 1,000 Guineas and, as she is a long-striding filly, I may take her to Newmarket to run in the Nell Gwyn over the straight seven rather than go to Newbury

JAMES FANSHAWE "Judicial Supremacy is a twoyear-old full brother - by Warning out of mare by The Minstrel - who will probably make his debut in a six furlong maiden in May. Nunsharpa, is a three-year-old half sister to Unhlest by Sharpo, She finished unplaced in a six-furlong Newmarket maiden on her only start as a juvenile last October. She will be ready to run by mid-April, will start off over six or seven furlongs and might get a mile."

Ardarroch Prince

GOING: Good (Good to Firm in places)

for the Fred Darling which is

run round a bend."

"Lord Of Men, who won the

Group One Prix de la Salamandre for me has wintered well. He will start off in either the Greenham or the Craven. He should stay 10 furlongs but I am not sure he would last the mile and a half of the Derby. There are fewer stamina doubts about Sacho [cut to 16-1 from 20-1 by the Tote yesterday for the Derby] who is by Kris out of Oh So Sharp. He ran very promisingly on his only start, finishing second in the traditionally competitive Chesterton Maiden Stakes at Newmarket in October. He will be suited by 10 furlongs or a mile and a half, will run at the Craven meeting and is a fine prospect."

JOHN HILLS "Al Abraq is a three-year-old by Reprimand who won on his dehui and then was a creditable fifth to Rio Duvida in the Tattersalls Houghton Stakes. I was going to run him in the Free Handicap at the Craven meeting, but he has had a minor sethack and will now wait for a conditions race later on. He has wintered very well and might be good enough for something like the Jersey Stakes at Royal Ascot Diminutive had three

Gnsden: Sweet on Sacho

YEN YANGARA SAN

HYPERION

2.10 Mandicat 2.40 Shonara's Way 3.10 Rustic

Air 3.40 Stay Awake 4.10 Notable Exception 4.40

■ Len-hand galloping course; run-in 210yds.
■ Course is E of town on ATDS, Ayr station (service from Glasgow) Im. ADMESSION: Club 212; Grandstand 27 (OAPs half-price). CAB PABK: Free.

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None. LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Eight horses have been sen 212 miles from the Malton area of North Torkshire.

2.10 ARRAN 'NH' NOVICE HURDLE (QUALIFI-

2.40 COLONSAY NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D)

£3,750 added 3m 110vds

£3,750 added 3m 110yds

1 0-14 BODA ACCOUNT 159 (b) 6 M Moore 6 11 9 ... N Bontley

0 6:0312 MEADOWERN (1:0) W Rece 6 11 4 ... T Road

3 032544 CANAAN VALLEY (1:0) 0 PEXERSON B 11 3 ... J Burks

4 0 LOTHAN COMBODORE (63) 6 Renarts 6 11 3 ... A Dobbin

5 2003 MASTER SANDY (1:2) 8 Metaggar 9 11 3 ... P Weighort

6 (P-2004 NUMAY (1:1) U Barres 6 11 3 ... P Weighort

7 335346 BLOOGHOR'S SPRING (1:0) Ms 0 Thomson 7 10 12 ... T Offers

8 000600 MEADOWLECK (1:0) W Young 7 10 12 ... R Mempley (7)

9 2002 SHONARA'S WAY (1:0) (85) P Mortem 5 10 12 ... M Forster

9 4 Colared - 9 doctared - BETTING: 2-1 Shonara's Way, 4-1 Master Sandy, 5-1 Meadowdurn, 6-1 Canasa Valley, Bold Account, 7-1 Lothian Commodore, 8-1 others

ER) (CLASS D) £4,000 added 2m 4f runs last year, finishing third on the last of them in a maiden at Leicester when he came back not quite right. He has been wintering in Pisa, getting a bit of sun, and is working well out there. He'll start off in a small maiden and will then go for handicaps at a mile to 10 furlongs. He's the sort who might have a crack at the Britannia

LYNDA RAMSDEN

Handicap at Royal Ascol."

The trainer's husband, the respected professional gambler Jack Ramsden, said: "Master Charter had slight soundness problems last year but still managed to win over seven furlongs. He appeared not to get a mile subsequently, but is bred to get 10 furlongs and should stay a mile this year. He is entered for a six furlong handicap at Doncaster on Friday. Another ready to appear soon is Suind, who was picked up for 4,000 guineas from Tom Jones last back-end. She is at the bottom of the handicap, stays well and will go for 14 furlongs-plus handicaps."

ALEC STEWART Dahka Dancer, who has strengthened over the winter, is by Cadeaux Genereux out of Lupe Stakes winner Lady Shipley. He was fifth in a maiden on the July course and then a close third in a 19-runner seven furlongs maiden at Yarmouth. He will run in mid-April and should make a fair miler/10 furlongs performer. Jumairah Sunset is an unraced three-year-old filly by Be My Guest who has had niggling problems. She has made up into a very attractive sort and I will be disappointed if she cannot win races. She has been making more than average progress in recent weeks. Likely to stay a mile, she may be ready to ap-

pear in mid-April."

3.40 FURA HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D)

12:00 WILLIAM TELL (328) (0) M Haramond 5 11:13. Mir C Borner (3)
12:100 STAY AMFARC (102) (0) Mr M Reveley 10:11:12 ___P Niven
15:54P02 NORDIC SUN (17) (0) L Boyl-James 8:11:12. _B Harding (3)
15:1 ROYAL CREST (489) (0) M Carractor 9:11:3 ____ M Dwyer
16:02:10:060 HGRI MBND (5) (0) Mrs L Exided 7:10:12 ____ R Supplie
17:50-10:00 VAL DE RAMA (12) Denys South 7:10:12 ____ R Supplie
18:50-0000 BRIEF RELINION (17) (0) 5 Medicard 5:10:6. ___ B Stoney
18:50-0000 BRIEF RELINION (17) (0) 5 Medicard 5:10:6. ___ B Stoney
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18:50-0000 BRIEF RELINION (17) (0) 5 Medicard 5:10:6. ___ B Stoney

- 8 declared -BETTING: 3-1 Sharkashka, 9-2 Nordic San, 5-1 Stay Awake, 6-1 Royal Crest, 7-1 William Fell, B-1 Val De Rama, 9-1 others

4.10 BUTE NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,100 added 2m 4f

62321 SOUM (L1) (C) C Parks 7 12 0 B Storey 620P-50 ANOTHER MEADOW (117) | Dwor 8 11 2 A Dobbia 214-393 CORSTON RADER (10) Ws S Bachune 8 11 2 T Hood

5 3-42502 POLYMANE PALIFIAM (34) MS M (1975); 7 40532 POLYMANE PALIFIAM (30) M SEMEN 6 112 ________ P Maggiott 8 QOSO10 REVE DE VALSE (18) Debys Smith 9 11 2 _______ B Harding 9 (05766 PSTALLIFILES (358) O MCCOME 10 11 2 ______ D Bentiny 10 F-F5042 WHITE DIMMOND (11) Mss. | Russel 8 11 2 ______ M Fonder 11 1-31425 DISCO DES MOTTES (135) (0) F Murphy 5 10 13 P Carberry

- 11 declared -BETIMG: 3-1 Soliu, 7-2 Disco Des Motten, 4-1 Notable Exception, T-1 Delse Marshall, 8-1 Coroton Racer, Ingletorian, White Diamond, 10-1 others

4.40 GIGHA STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT (CLASS H) £1,550 added 2m

O CHILDHAY CHOCOLATE (99) P Nichols 8 11 B A P McCon

olate, Vicercy Of tadia, 10-1 Weigh Cottage, 12-1 others

105-REO FOODBROKER STAR (11) I Gifton 8 11 10 ... P. Hide
05-12 MR COPYFORCE (1588) (CD) (BF) Mes B Sandes 5 11 9 ... M. Resistants
16507-6 RAMHIN (7) (CD) S WOODMAN 11 11 5 ... M. Bosley
36734-50 ROD TRAISTY (C1) D Gressel 7 11 2 ... J. R Kansangh
330115 PRESH CHOICE (18) (CD) R Rowe 6 11 2 ... O D'Sullivea
444373 DAMIN FLIGHT (RD) J Jentens 7 10 11 ... J. Deborne
361064 DARRING NING (8) (CD) M Bolico E 10 5 ... A. P. McCoy
00000 HYLTERS CHANCE (12) P Hobbs 5 10 2 ... A. P. McCoy
17545-5 L CHIMANAN (15) (C) 1 Midney 7 10 1 ... R. Formers

Minimum weight: 10%. True handkab weight: Tel E Thon 9st 10%. BETTRIG: 4-1 Fresh Chokes, 5-1 Mr Copylorce, 6-1 Dawn Flight, Dering King, 7-1 Chinaman, 8-1 Rio Trusky, Foodbroker Star, 10-1 others

4.00 HORSE & HOUND CHARLTON HUNT HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) £2,000 2m 3f

- 6 declared -RETTING: 7-4 Halhem Farn, 11-4 Hamper, 3-1 Welshener's Golly, 8-1 Ed-die Weisbe, Luxalight, 12-1 Blakes Orphan

4.30 ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTION NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 2m 2f

OP6-50 CALVARO (17) A Isrus 5 11 2 ______ A Lamach (3)
SP DREAM LEADER (17) M Robers 6 11 2 _____ B Powel
504 PLYING FROMER (16) M PODERS 5 11 2 _____ 6 Hogan (3)

RAMSBURY RIDGE (7) L Snook 4 10 3...... D Guilleghe

– 12 dectared – BETTING: 3-1 Hardy Westher, 7-2 for Playfell, 4-1 Flying Fiddler, 7-1 Car-vero, 10-1 Compotented Lady, Mediane President, 22-1 others

GERRA'S PRIDE (12) G Balcing 5 Lt 2 .. 3 HARDY WEATHER (111) D Sandollo 7 11 2 J Osborne LISAMANE DAYS P Heagy 6 11 2 M Richards 243233 MR PLAYFULL (18) R Fiess 6 11 2 J Fiest

£3,500 added 2m 6f

105-R60 F000BROKER STAR (11) | Gflort 8 11 10

9 1354-54 CHINAMAN (15) (C)) Materia 7 10 1 10 63-21FD TELE THON (12) Mass C Caroe 9 10 0

BRITISH FOLIESTRIAN INSURANCE PRO-

- 15 deciared -BETUNG: 5-1 Swyndord Pride, 11-2 Arderroch Prices, 8-1 Aurvistic, Shar akanadi, 8-1 Cragaebuoy, 9-1 Ele Mata, 10-1 Piter Eche, 12-1 others

low as 6-1 after the announcement that Rough Quest will miss the race and the news that Jodami and Royal Athlete are also doubtful. "Jodami's absence is not definite, but the National is only a week on Saturday and we're just running out of time," Peter Beaumont, Jodami's trainer,

> RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Mandicat (Ayr 2.10) NB: Fresh Choice (Fontwell 3.30)

said. He added that his I 1-yearold is more likely to run in the Irish National on 8 April, when Rough Quest is a possible rival. Mark Pitman added last year's winner, Royal Athlete, to the doubtful list, saving: "We've been held up with him and it's odds against him running."

Young Hustler is now the likely Aintree top weight on 11st 7lb, leaving Lo Stregone just 2lb out of the handicap proper.

RESULTS

2.10: 1. TARROCK (D. Bymel. 3-1; 2. Balleswhilden 2-1; 3. Signity Special 25-1, 6 rac, evens levounte Intermage, (feln. 1.3, dist. (framed by Mrs Merma Joness, Tober wie £4.10, places 52.00, £1.40, Dual Forecast, 18.40 Computer Straight Forecast £9.37. 2.40: A MAJOR NOVA IM: J CARON 7-2 ft fav. 2. Ablinger 5-1; 3. Drum Battle 7-2 ft fav. 11 ran. 24c, 11c iii Smith. Todar 55-10; £2.10, £1.90, £1.30. OF; £12.30 CSF: £20.40. True £4.40.

3.10: 1. GIVENTIME II. Harveyi 2-1; 2. Who's Next 12-1; 3. Mobile Messenger 16-1. 7 ram. 15-8 fav Fools Errand (4th. 4, 1. 4 Turnell, 7atte: £3.20; £1.30, £4.40, DF: £24.40, CSF; £24.05.

234.0, LSF; 224.05.
3.40; 1. HAWTHORNE GLEN (B Ferton)
7-2; 2. Petitjean 13:2; 3. Aramon 11:1. 5
ran, 5-2 fav Artic Life (4th) 4, 14v. IMrs M
Long. Tota: 54.30; £2.70, £2.40, DF;
£12.90, CSF; £22.96.

2.12.MU, CSF: 1.22.96.
4.10:1. EASBY JONER (M.A. Fizgerald) 11-8 fax; 2. Woodbands Boy 10-1. S ran (2 finished). 5, 15 Kettlewell, Tote: £2.30; £1.40; £4.40, OF: £7.50. CSF: £12.59. Non Rumer: The Wayward Bishop.
4.40; 1. INDIAN TRACKER C. Maude) 6-1.2. Rangelikkel 11-10 fax 8 Sande Maude) 6-1.2. Rangelikkel 11-10 fax 9 Sande Maude)

4.40; L. INDRIN TRACKER IC MADE) D-12. Rangilkei (1-10 far; S. Song Musiin 2-1 S ran. 11. dist. (M Ppe). Tote: [1-30; £1.20, £1.50. DF: £6.30. CSF £13.06. Placepot £127.50. Quadpot: £27.20. Place 6: £76.38. Place 5: £37.53.

NEWCASTLE

2.20; 1. RALLEGIO (G Cahil) 3-1; 2. Mill Tryme 6-5 far; 3. Trevvections 9-1. 12 ran. 10. vs. (P Monteuty, Tote: £4,00; £1,50, £1,50, £1,10, Dual Forecast: £3,20, Com-paer Straight Forecast: £6,48, Tno: £11,10. 2.50:1. NEWLANDS-GENERAL, NO. 2.11.20.
2.50:1. NEWLANDS-GENERAL, ND Over 1. 1. tax: 2. Potato Main 66-1; 3. Issyln 5-1. 8 ran, 2-1. 1; tax One For The Pot 15th 3, 13. U. FitzGendol, Totes £2.30; £1.70, £4.60. DF: £25.60, CSF: £47.61.

3.20: 1. NORTHERN SOURE (L. Wyer) 6: 1; 2. Sansoni 4-1; 3. Slaught Son 5-2 fav. 9 ran, 3-r., 11. U Jefferson, Tote: £6,30; £1,30, £2,10, £1,30, Dr. £11,90, CSP; £28,21, Treast: £57,77, Tro: £18,00. 2.50.1. Indext 207.77. Not. 120.00.
3.50: 1. Ninff A A Dobbro 5-1; 2. Born Deep 7-2; 3. Twin States 9-1. 3 ran. 11-10 (av Seven Towers Hell). ni. 24, (6 Enchards). Tota: £3.50; £1.20, £1.60, £1.60. DF; £7.50, CSF; £21.69. Theast: £139.92. Tho: £10.50. Non Runner, Highlandman.

4.20: 1. EXECUTIVE DESIGN (C Caha) 10ran, n., 3-/s. [Mrs M Reveley, Total £11.60; £5.20, £2.60, £1.10. DF: £82.40. CSF: £89.96. Tricast: £214.13. Tric: £128.00. 89.96, (Reast E214-1.5, Inc. 2128,00.
4.66: 1. PARSONS BOY (A Dobban 117 ram. 2-1 ray Dopusin Colleges Iran but.,
1.4. (G Richards), Fote: £5.20; £2.50,
7.20, £5, 70. 0F; £139,90. CSF; £129,97,
0F; £351,10 lpar won, pool of £451,11 carel forward to Urbaster 4.50 today),
5.20; 1. STULY IN SECAN (N bernstel) 5.25: 1. SIOUX TO SPEAK IN Horodel

100-30; 2. Captain Chaos 12-1; 3. Ardrina 50-1, 12 ran. 1-2 fav My Buster (4th), 5, 10, 10 Thornson, Tote: £4.60; £1.20, £2.10, £2.10, £7.55, 10, CSF; £41.10, Tho: £157.70. Tho: £157.70.

Jackpot: not won ipool of £18,434,50 car-ried forward to Uttowater today). Place 6: £90.52. Place 5: £73.39. SOUTHWELL

2 00: 1. ELTON LEDGER (J Tate) 10-1 2. Desert invader 3-1; 3. Dissentor 2-1 fav. 9 ron. 144, 194. (Mrs N Macauley). Totel £8.60; £2.80, £1.10, £1.20. Dual Forecast

Treast: £79.01, 100: £15.00.
2.30: 1. PINE ESSENCE (P Doe) 5-1; 2.
Traileros 14-1; 2. King Parrot 5-1, 13 ran.
4-1 fav Mezoramo. 5, 13/a, U L Eyre; Tote:
5-60: £3.30, £4.80, £2.30, DF: £74.40.
CSF: £67.85, Treast: £350.51, Trot £163.40. 3.00: 1. SO AMAZING (K Fallon) 5-4 fav 2. Astrore 9-4; 3. Spencer's Revenge 5-1. 10 rea. 5, sht-hd. Itikss S Hall, Tote: £2-40; £1.0, £1.50, £1.10. DF: £2.90. £SF: £4.49, Tro: £1.50, NR: Cavendish Rose. 3.30: 1 NAVAL HUNTER (6 Hnd) 25-1: 2. Hamlet 10-11 fav. 3. Falry Highlands 4-1. 11 ran. 1%, 3%, 6 Hams, Totas £41.30, £4.90, £1.30, £1.20. DF: £9.10. CSF: £49.27. Trio: £20.T0.

4.00: 1. ADALOALDO (R Havimi 12-1; 2. Eulogy 8-1; 3. Tempering 6-1, 10 ran. 11-4 tay 18 Batador (4th). V2, 4, U Parkes), Tober 514, 70; E3-30, £3-80, £581,61, Ino: £247,40. CSF: £93.68. Treast: £561.61. Tro: £747.40. 4.30: 1. GENERAL EQUATION () Edmands: 5-1: 2. Gl La High T-4 p fev; 3. Impirigion 9-1. B ran. 7-4 p fev Copper Bright (4th). 6, 7. U Balding, Tothe: £7.60; £2.20, £1.10. £3.80. DF: £6.30. CSF: £13.72.

5.00: 1. FQIST () Quinn 9-2. 2. Maybank 7-2 tav, 3. Awesome Venture 11-2. 9 ran. 14-, 6. M W Easterby. Tota: £3.90; £1.10. £1.40, £2.40, 0F: £14.80. CSF: £18.86. In-cast £78.38. Troc £21.50.

Placepot: £18.30. Quadpot: £6.40. Place 6: £35,72. Place 5: £24.21.





last November. 3-4PPOS LAKE TEEREEN (J.G) (Mrs. A.T Grandson) J Oki 11, 10 9, 005A/JU ERZADIAN (11) (BRF) (D.S. Hall) July M. Raveley G. 10 3 ... — 8 deciment — -8 declared BETENIC: 5-2 Smith Too, 3-1 Brace of Mar, 4-1 My Rossial, 5-1 Father O'Brien, 8-1 Cafton Sel,
Francism, 12-1 others

FORM GUIDE

Brass Of Mar won in spire when he took a Lexester handcap over hundles on his first start
of the campaign and he has sence run wet, winning at Hereford, over fences, Howing said
that, he is 12/b higher in the ratings than at Lexester and he encounters a potentially improved horse in the shape of Mary Reveley's raider ERZADIAN, who strotted home in a two and a quarter miles' handcap at Neiso at the story of the month. Their improved form the nould have won by a dozen lengths instead of two and a half) herely makes hat noise and nould have won by a dozen lengths instead of two and a half) herely makes hat noise called the substanding over this contracting two of a 5th inglar mark, but he shapes as if he should be substanding over this contracting two of a 5th inglar mark, but he shapes as if he should be substanding been at Haydock less time, finishing shead of Cinton Set in running fifth of 13 to Outset. My Rossain was particularly game and consistent less deason, notably when allowed to dominate, and much will hings on whether he is able wrest the load off another front-running type. Smitta Too. There are reservations about Smith Too in terms of the ground because a lively surface suits harn so well, but he was a handy winner at Chatterham and Haydock in early season and he can respectably when that to Zambarder at Domoster last time. Kears showed rest strying topinious to win sit Chopston in November but this was a sapping tace in time ground and he hasn't looked quite the same horse cance, though was in good form in the load spring lest year. proved horse in the shape of Mary Reveley's raider ERZADJAN, who strolled home in a tw

-			
t	4	.20	CAFFREYS IRISH ALE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 3m 2f Penalty Value £2,983
	1	5/PP1PP	STUMBBING STUFF (19) (Gless Glesson) T George 11 12 0
į	5	264211	PRICE'S HEL (15) (0) (G D W Switel K Bailey 9 11 11T J Murphy (3)
	ā	11-2332	RECTORY GARDEN (19) (Lord Carlogar) T Forster T 11 10 A Thornton
,	Ā	535,355	CALABRESE (21) (D) (Major M Watson) M W Easterby 11 118Mr J Collety (5)
	5	PF-F3P2	YOUNG DUBLINER (15) (John A Coope) Mrs J Brown 7 10 13
,	6	P33052	ANDROS PRINCE (22) (A Zafoggulo) Miss A Embricos 11 10 10 Ryan
	7	F11P13	PERLIPIAN GALE (21) (J L Welbert) Mrs S Smith 7 10 9R Wildington (7)
	B	41/502	IT'S A SNIP (6) (CD) (The ley Fire Parmership) C Marin 11 10 B
	9	033-412	CALL THE SHOTS (24) (John Wede) J Wade 7 10 8
1	10	265/5FD	JARRWAR (94) TAlen C Caddreg J Spessing 8 10 7 Lodder
	11	451-PPD	ALBERT BLANE (13) (D) (Nrs T R harsey) T Harsey 9 10 5
١.	12	SU52FP	JENDEE (LA) (The Avenue Racing Partnershot J Hellens 8 10 3 Mr Brosson
1	13	4FP53U	BAPECCABLE TBIRRIS (14) (Nos Carole Machell () O'Neil 13:10 ()
	_		

The Magnus connection makes Rectory Garden look interesting, Tim Forsier's seven-year-old having run that Festival women to three lengths at Ludlow last time. But Rectory Gar-den was getting plenty of weight and, not for the first time, tended to jump slopply. He is ignocking on the door but Persulan Gale cames only 10st 2b of Richard Williamson's claim. knocking on the door but Peruvian Gale cames only 10st 2b if Richard Wilkinson's claim, is taken into account and has a decent chance on the pick of his form, even if there is a slight worry over whether this ground with have enough bounce in it. My fancy for a troppy handicap is PRICE'S HILL who will stay every yard and looks a decent sort now that he has moned out his jumping. True, he is creeping up the handicap but he looks a horse that the assessor might, find it hard to keep pace with. Prica's Hill but in his best round of jumping so far at Windson last time and pulled 11 lengths clear of hearto, while he camed a smiller weight to this when on the mark at Fontwell the time before. January as seams fairly handicapped if site can keep har feet, while Calif The Shots, only even, looks to have some scope for improvement.

	-			
	4	.50	DRAUGHT BASS CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS NOVK CAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 2m Penalty Val	E HANDI De £2,37
	1	203530	DOORE BRAES (17) (W A Murphy) W Murphy (kg 6 11 10	C Ree (4
	ē		HIGHERANIX (18) (D) (Peter M Dodd) Mrs M Roysley 4 118	
	3		AMISI SOIT E. (FR) (8) (A-Mon Parmersho) F Murphy 5 11 T	
	7.		CURRENT SPEECH (15) (D) (C H Stevens) T Extently 5 11 T	
	5	05554	PERSONNATUS (13) (Mrs G S Rees) Capt J Wisson 8 114	D Pacies
•	ĕ	00.1	SCOVINSH WEDDING (61) (6 A Westman, Reynolds & Dearl W Clay 6 11 3	Geny Lond
	ž		NEEDWOOD JOKER (102) (Traple Darmond Partnershop J A Herits 5 11 2	
	Ŕ		PRIDENCOD PICKER (B) (D) (Miss B Moess) R Price 9 11 0 (7ex)	
	ĕ		PRESTON GUILD (15) (D) (The Carch Club) A Streeter B 10 13	
	10		WAIGNG (15) (Mrs H Sedencio J FroGenic 5 10 11	
			ANDRATH (19) © Jonesi D Jones 8 10 10	
	-==	0.00000	COLUMNIL (5) (Nrs Young Alsop) R Alsop 5 10 6	The Lineston /A
•	.#	0.00004	NORTHERN SINGER (20) (Joe Panes) R Hodges 6 10 0	T Descende
		270003	MR POPPLETON (17) (Final Furlang Partnership) R Brotherton 7 10 0	Carbin Marie
	15	025735	LITTLE THICTURE (13) (Miss T Michines Sternet) Miss T Michines Sterner 8 10 0.	SOURCE PROPERTY.
			- 15 declared -	

Picker has been besten in sellers, he did win tidily from 19 rivels at Taunton eight days ago. Even so, an 8th penelty lessens his chance. Scottlish Weddlag represents a stable

	3.20 CARLING PREMIER NOVICE HANDROAP CHASE (CLASS F) £3,600 added 2m 5f Penalty Value £2,779 1 410.30 BARTON SANTA (73) BAS H I Carter 8 Busishaw 7 11 10	back secret to have his firmations exposed behind Elpidos at Kelso and though Priderwood Picker his been besten in sellers, he did win tidly from 13 mels at Tauntion eight despise ago. Even so, an 8th penulty lessens his chance. Scottlish Wedding represents a stable with a following here but she probably has enough weight despise her 12-length Tauntion in selling grade in mid January. This is her first run since. Section: Amisi SOff IL
	8 - 22F2F0 GREENGEED MAKEOR (47) (Anni Voice) February Mary Company 6 10 6	5.20 WORTHINGTON DRAUGHT 1NY NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) (DIV I) £3.250 added 2m 4f 110yds Penaity Vaine £2,661
-	10 SPOROL DISTRIBUTION RELEASE (CT) (B.J.M. Rieff & Right & 10 2	1 025/135 NOVA RUM (73) IS Recing N Handerson 7 11 10 M A Fitzgrands 2 LLF-905 RUCKS SURPRISE (24) May (F Mantard) Nackas 8 11 3 T Bey
	BETTIME: 3-1 Easters River, 9-2 Indical Field, 6-1 Stractack, 6-1 Tough Deal, 7-1 Tricksons, 6-1	3 O GAELIC BUJE (12) (Describerrange) New S Smith 6 11.3 1 Decembly (7) A March 1080 Power J Man West Level 7 11.3 March 1080 Power S Common 1 11.3 Control 1080 March 1080 Power S Common 1 11.3 Control 1080 March 1080 Power S Common 1 11.3 Control 1080 March 1080 Power S Common 1 11.3 Control 1080 March 1080 March 1080 Power S Common 1 11.3 Control 1080 March 1080 Power S Common 1 11.3 Control 1080 March 1080 Power S Common 1 11.3 Control 1080 March 1080 Power S Common 1 11.3 Control 1080 March 1080 Power S Common 1 11.3 Control 1080 March 1080 Power S Common 1 11.3 Control 1080 March 1080 Power S Common 1 11.3 Control 1080 Power S Common
1	describe the Sin promoton from his i sides	5. 4F-0220 SENERAL TONIC (65) IRP) (Studies Racing D Genovito 9 11 3
	ter hendicap mark, Making his crassing users to a wigner since. Considering he was	8 500 OPERETTO (25) 6G Noció Mrs S Nock 6 11 3
	2th part of the handleap proper at Lanceses, assessment was in door chang for his British	10 - 605 DROFA GV DR (Death Males) Mic H Krist 7 11 3 JFTBer
	debut at Cariste bight days ago and proved the way bustest Field books vulnerable to	12 00002-5 WAN A HAND 66/2 (R M Root) R Pool 8 10 12
- (not amount to much but he can be expected in two starts since his November win at Phatip- an unprover and Tricksoure hasn't sparked in two starts since his November win at Phatip-	13 0-500 WOEFUL LAKE (32) (Mrs. I & Brooked A.) Wilson 5.10.12
_	ton in what was a virtual material whether the state of learning Director Strong Gale sty-year-	- 14 deciment -
4	old leaves his ordinary tourn beautiful tour	ic, 10-1 Books Surptise, 12-1 Goelic Blue, Golden Drum, 14-1 othera
	HOOPER'S HOOCH HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS B) £7,000	PORM QUIDE UNCLE ALEY looks capable of troubling the form horses, How Run and General Torks.

BETING: 4-1 Nova Run, 9-2 Usade Algy, 6-1 Philharmonic, 7-1, Master Palleter, 8-1 General Tooic, 10-1 Bucks Sampites, 12-1 Genetic Blue, Rolden Dram, 14-1 others
PORM GUIDE
UNCLE ALGY looks capable of troubling the form horses, Nevan Run and General Tonic.
Uncle Algy ran stath of 2-1 in a Newbury bumper two years ago, staying on, and was off the
course oil of last season after one more run when only ninth of 17 to Wizzo at Hereford.
Ne ran a nice sece after the lay-off when fifth to Decide Yourself at Kempton 25 days ago.
Nova Run was on easy winner of a musor event at Windsor in January and has since been
third in a handicap and then fifth to El Rubio at Haydock where he bundered four out and
could keep on at only one pace afterwards. General Tonic is a maiden over hundles but his
form is reasonable enough.

3.10 ISLAY HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS DI £5.100 added 2m 4f F525-41 JUST FRANKE (SD) KS) MS M Reveloy 12 11 10P Minos P-11412 GENERAL COMMAND (15) (BP) G Parisms 8 11 TP Carborry

FONTWELL HYPERION 2.00 Uncle Bert 2.30 How's It Goin 3.00 All Clap Hands 3.30 FRESH CHOICE (nap) 4.00 Halham Tarn 4.30 Flying Fiddler OING: Good to Firm.

GOING: Good to Pirm.

Left-hand hurdle course; figure-of-eight chase course.

Course is 5 of village at junction of A28 and A27. Barnhum railway station (Brighton – Portsmouth line) 2m. ADMISSION: Child \$12; Juntor Club (12 to 15-year-olds) 52, under 12s free; Totter-salls 58 (accompanied under-16s free; Salver Ring \$4. CAR PARK: Plenie area \$4 plus \$4 for each occupant; remainder free.

SIS RACINE

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Mr Playfull |4:30| has been sent 186 miles by R Frost from Bucklastieigh, Devon; Zenley Wood |2:00| & Hytters Chance |3:30| sent |4:3 miles by P Hobbs from Bilbrook,

- Contract						
2	2.00	'CERTAIN JUSTICE' NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 2m 2f				
1	/P-1116	HENLEY WOOD (166) (C) (SF) P Hooks 11 12 0_Mr R White (7)				
2	DU1520	FENNICK (20) R Hoczes 9 11 10 D Gallagher				
3	003511	UNICLE BERT (S) & McCourt & 11.5 D Fortt (5)				
4	212424	HERBERT BUCHANAN (11) (BF) P Nichols 6 11 4 A P MicCoy				
5	P0P4/00	MORE OF IT (34) M Roberts 11 LO 11				
6	10-3-50	QUENTA ROYALE (68) L Snook 9 10 10				
7	00323L	PICHU (13) Mrs L Potents 8 10 8				
8	5P0644	UPWARD SURGE (4) R Leager 6 to 6				
9	OP-2552	REG DAT (119) J MARTS 7 10 0				
10	D-09F	RLIEY'S GIRL (13) A Turnell 6 10 0				
11	0 P00	MASTER PANGLOSS (20) A Turnel 6 100 N Williamington (7)				
		- 11 declared -				

our weight 10st. The handsto weight Master Pargloss 9st 120.

Ferrefel, 6-1 Fictus, 19-1 Quinta Royale, 14-1 Rent Day, 16-1 others					
F	2.30	STREEEL BOILERS/RADIATORS HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 2f			
יוו		HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 2f			
1	4/26444	MARRIS (17) J Grions 5 12 0 P Hide			
12	552055	HOW'S IT GOOK (17) W May 5 11 11			
13	465646	OLD ARCHOVES (7) L Wees 7 11 10 G Hogas (3)			
Ā	515+64	BOYFRISHO (14) D Elsenth 6 11 3P Holley			
5	02500P	SOPHIE MAY (B) G L Moore 5 11.1 A P McCoy			
6	402056	NEGHT IN A MELION (11) 5 Woodmen 5 10 3 _ 0 Gallagher			
7	OUR-000	BLACK STATEMENT (18) A Javes 6 10 0			
1.		- 7 declared -			

Minimum weight: 10st. True handicup weight: Black Statement 9st 13fb. BETTREG: 11-4 Martus, 7-2 How's It Golin, 4-1 Boylifend, 9-2 Might in A

3.00 HEDDY SIMPSON MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 3m 2f 110yds

ELEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: M Pipe — 43 winners from 149 runners gives a success ratio of 28.9% and a profit to a £1 level stake of £6.50; K Bailey — 24 winners, 96 runners, 25.9%, +59.86; O Sherwood — 18 winners, 60 runners, 30.9%, +524.06; N Twiston-Davies — 17 winners, 96 runners, 17.7%, +£21.10.

ELEADING JOCEETS: E Dunwood — 38 winners, 169 rides, 25.9%, -553.76; J Owberne — 29 winners, 96 rides, 30.2%, +557.49; N Williamson — 24 winners, 148 rides, 16.2%, -522.53; A Magairo — 21 winners, 125 rides, 16.9%, -£6.67.

WINNERS: IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None, LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Gallant Lord 15.20) has been sent 186 miles by Mrs L Jewell from Smiton Valence, Kerl. 2.20 WORTHINGTON DRAUGHT WIT NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) (DIV I) £3,250 2m 4f 110yds Penalty Value £2,661 BUSTER BOB will be well suited by the tip, which he tackies for the first smal. He is a tail, scopely gelding by Clearly Bust out of a mare who won over hundes in Ireland. He is also a half-brother to a winning Irish jumpor. Buster Bob won a slow-un bumper at Warwick in November when he was backward and geen but got his second which after losing its pitch half a mile from the firsh. Two outing later he was four lengths addit of Slik Word in finishing fourth to El Rubio over hundes at Haydock. He followed up by dividing Inculcate and sample fourth to El Rubio over hundes at Haydock. He followed up by dividing Inculcate and Gom Of Shades at Ascot. He was not knocked about at Ascot after being outpered and he is likely to leave that form behind in this assist-looking race with the greater emphasis on stamina. Sik Word has run a couple of the roces at this trip and, with the birthers fitted, has each-way claims. Sik, a bigger danger may be Wild West Wind who was in the process of unruing a good race when failing use from home in last month's Kempton two-miler won by the useful Cas Equiname. Wild West Wind has the looks and pedigree of a horse who will appreciate today's trip. Pattier Power, lightly reced since the autumn, is a maiden after 14 strempts, but will appreciate the good ground.

Soleetion: BUSTER BOB -16 declared
BETTRIG: 3-1 Valuet Toxid, 7-2 Coast Mong, 6-1 General Janbo, 8-2 Cellic Cellido, 9-1 Beeckfield
Phys., 10-1 Nicov Protago, 12-1 Highland Spin, 14-1 others

Minimum weight: 10st. True weights: Northern Singer & Mr Poppiston Sat 13to, Little Tincture Sat 12th. BETTING: 7-2 Carrent Speech, 5-1 Prichascod Picher, 6-1 Highband, 7-1 Abrail Soft B, 10-1 Doors Brees, Scottlish Wedding, 14-1 Personitans, 15-1 Walding, 20-1 others FURTH GUIDE.

Itish rader Doote Brass has yet to win e race and has top weight, but this isn't a very compositive bandleap. Fertly Murphy must have thought a little bit of AINSI SOIT II. list season to have run him against some of the leading novees it the Million in Mind Hurtle at Cheltenham and Ainsi Soit II followed up with a seven-length Newbury second of 10 to Clifton Beat in the mud. He has struggled to make an impact since but was a fair lith to Frogmench at Newbury bord of form thow winners at Cheltenham). Mr Poppleton would seem to enter the picture on his Wanaich third of 21 to Royal & Nag but the form of that race has taken a few knocks and a higger threat could be Current Speech who had Preston Guild and Welkling behind when fourth to Rest Tone at Concaster lest time. High-back seemed to have his firmations exposed behind Elpidos at Kelso and though Pridawood

sport

The revelation of the season has been Ireland's Simon Mason, who kicked his goals with a lovely action and did not put a foot wrong

When, on the final morning of the Five Nations' Championship, any one of three countries could have won the competition. I fail to see how it could be described as other than interesting. For myself, I felt no anticlimactic sense at Twickenham - especially as England did not secure the match until midway through the second half, when the English pack took the ball into their own large hands. In fact Dean Richards' hands are quite small, given the size of the rest of him, but no matter. We are now going to review the season by picking the Lions party for a hypothetical summer tour.

It has not been a great time for full-backs. Though Mike Catt recovered from his poor start, he has not, as the racing correspondents say, trained on, Justin Thomas has looked equally shaky at times. I

would be tempted to go for Mike Rayer, if the unjustly discarded Paul Hull did not have a prior claim. The revelation of the season. however, has been Orrell and Ireland's Simon Mason, who on Saturday kicked his four goals with a lovely action and otherwise did not put a foot wrong, even if he did knock on once, fly-kicking the ball disgustedly into the crowd.

The centres choose themselves.
Will Carling had perhaps his best
season ever for England. Leigh
Davies is a genuine Welsh discovery. Nigel Davies has shown that the ancient arts of centre play are not completely forgotten. While Jeremy Guscott made several misjudge-ments, his try against Wales was not quite the "soft" one the Welsh have been claiming it was. He is still a marvellous player.

I have talked to several good judges about Gregor Townsend's near miss against England. They were unanimous that - though Townsend might have scored if he had carried on - no other outsidehalf of modern times could have equalled his pace over such a distance; not Phil Bennett not David Watkins and certainly not Barry John. My choice as his companion on the trip is Neil Jenkins who, far from costing Wales matches, has often been the fig-leaf providing the scoreboard with a semblance of respectability. On Saturday he won the match hy kicking the final goal which others would have missed.

There cannot be much argument about the scrum-halves. At the beginning of the season Bryan Redpath looked easily the best in the British Isles. By the end he had been sup-



on rugby

planted by Robert Howley. Clearly they must both go.
Among the backs, I have left the wings till last, for this reason; suppose we play Hull at full-back and Townsend at outside-half. Who is going to do the goal-kicking? I should

Irish. This leaves three places for Leonard. genuine wings. Ieuan Evans is not a sentimental selection; after all his injuries, he seems as fast and alert: as ever. Even before his fine try against Ireland, Jon Sleightholme looked a player of class. The final place is between Simoo Geoghegan and Ken Logan. I am going for Lo-gan because, if he had not made the hreak he did as a substitute, Scotland would not have beaten Wales. The Scottish selectors evidently do

not share my admiration for him. Propping is a mysterious business. even sometimes to props. My choice in conventional. Nick Popplewellperhaps upset by all his club and residential moves - did not have a par-ticularly good season by his Among flankers, Rob Wain-standards. But he nevertheless goes wight and Gwyn Jones were the

The hookers have not been outstanding. England still miss Brian Moore. I am rejecting the current wisdom of the selectors of the home countries in restoring Garin Jenkins and recalling Graham Dawe before he becomes eligible for his Senior Railcard.

The outstanding locks have been Martin Johnson and Gareth Liewellyn. Presumably Johnson would jump at No 2 and Liewellyn at No 4. On form, Derwyn Jones deserves to go too, though people say he has too gentle a disposition. They say the same about the rejected Martin Defends of the control tin Bayfield. But I'm taking both of

want the best kicker available, who on the trip, accompanied by John leading performers. Ben Clarke, is Michael Corcoran of London Davies, David Hilton and Jason Lawrence Dallaglio and Ian Smith can also mount a case. As the reject's friend, I would prefer Tim Rodher as reserve No 6. As reserve No 7, Dallaglio narrowly gets in. At No 8 the only question is who is to accompany Richards. I choose Eric

The party: Full-backs: P Hull, S Mason. Wings: M Corcoran, I Evans, K Logan, J Sleightholine. Centres: W Carling, L Davies, N Davies, J Guscott, Outside-halves: N Jenking, C Davies, J Guscott, Outside-halves: N Jenkins, G Townsend. Scrumhalves: R Howley, B Redpath. Props: J Davies. D Hilton, J Leonard N Popplewell. Hookers: G Dawe, G Jenkins. Locks: M Bayfield, M Johnson, D Jones, G Llewellyn. Flankers: L Dallaglio, G Jones, T Rodber, R Wainwright (capt). No 8: E Peters, D Richards.

Guscott

asked to

rethink

on Wigan

Jeremy Guscott may have dis-

missed the historic cross code

Rugby Challenge as "a pointless exercise" but Wigan and Bath

are taking the two-match series

very seriously.

Wigan have even bought a scrum machine in readiness for the match at Twickenham, to be

played under union rules on 25

May, while Bath hope to an-

they have obtained the services

of a leading rugby league coach to help them prepare for the 13-man version at Maine Road,

more sponsors expected to join

Save and Prosper, each club is

expected to make between

The presence of Guscott

would almost certainly boost in-

terest and the Bath manager,

take part in either match.

"Jerry wasn't under contract at the time," Hall said yester-

day. "His comments were a bit

off the cuff. I don't think he re-

alised the magnitude and the

be financial rewards for Bath

players taking part in the series. Joe Lydon, Wigan's assistant coach and utility back, said: "Td

like to see [Guscott] play, to see

However, Hall pointed out

that Guscott was not certain to

be picked for the league version.

anyway. "We have had several

rugby league sessions and quite

a few players in the squad have

been staking their claim." This

was borne out when the Bath

captain, Phil de Glanville, said

not even he was guaranteed a

how he'd cope with it.

scale of these two games."

Jon Hall, says he intends ask-ing the England centre to re-consider this decision not to

250,000 and £400,000.

Manchéster on 8 May. Negotiations are under way for a live television deal and with

DAVID LLEWELLYN

Dearth of class confirms gap

o that's that then. Cage the cockerels, stow away the sultires and banish the closet - it's all over for another year. The Five Nations' Championship - the great commercial and sporting giant of the European winter has drawn to a close. And less than nine months after the World Cup what, if any, progress has been

As ever a few new stars emerged - Leigh Davics. Robert Howley, Simon Mason. Gwyn Jones, Thomas Cas-taignede, Lawrence Dallaglio, Some more experienced performers made the transition from bit-part players to centre stage: take a bow Rob Wain-to continue to play to their wright. Gregor Townsend, Bryan Redpath, Martin Johnson and Gareth Llewellyn. But a worrying feature was the lack of truly world-class players in the "spine" of all five teams. There was no nutstanding hooker. No 8 or full-back in the whole championship and, with the ex-ception of Scotland, every country had problems with at least one of their half-back posi-

In terms of playing style albeit there was some variety: Wales ran, Scotland rucked, Ireland drove. England mauled and France decided not to bother with anything as orthodox as a peels and drives into the heart at present, but all of whom are ally didn't matter how they

tried to play. Once again England showed ceive. that they are damned hard tubeat. It might not always be pretty but is reasonably effective - at least within Europe. A relatively inexperienced pack gelled together well in the last two games but to expand their game further a number of adjustments are called for. Principally they need to deliver against France provided the quicker first-phase ball (it is virtually impossible to run line-out ball that is caught and driven at the front of the line or scrum-

When Nottingham Forest signed

Larry Lloyd from Coventry in 1976.

the former Liverpool and England

centre-half appeared to have left

his best days behind oim. He was

also regarded as amogant and coin.

onated and he and Brian Clough

soon disliked each other intense-

ly. But mutual respect enabled them

relationship to flourish and Lloyd

went on to become the bedrock

of Forest's double European Cup-

In fact, Lloyd developed a deep

commitment to Forest, becoming

a shareholder and failing only by

eight votes to gain election to the

board at his last senous attempt.

Novadays, aged 47, he still lives

"only five minutes from the ground"

and co-hosts coverage of their

matches on local commercial ra-

dio. "My style is always to be horr-

After retning as a player. Lloyd

managed Wigan Athletic and Notis

County without conspicuous suc-

cess, then became a publican,

winning side.



Mark Evans, the coach of Saracens, analyses the variety of styles in the Five Nations and concludes they still lag behind their southern hemisphere rivals

mage ball that is held for five seconds at the No 8's feet) and to improve the passing skills and alignment of the midfield trio. It is probably too much to hope that English versions of Robert Howley or Gregor Townsend will emerge overnight. Until to continue to play to their strengths and make sure their hooker can throw to the back of the line-out so that a few

'The compse that was Welsh rugby is definitely twitching – intermittently'

deliver the kind of ball that Guscett and company so rarely re-

championship was Scotland, In Italy they were awful, on paper they were moderate, but a well balanced back row and gifted half-backs can take you a long way in rugby. Tactically they were sound, their team spirit was excellent and their match game of the tournament. However their front five just isn't hig or strong or powerful enough to allow them to compete against

keeping the Stage Door pub in Not-

tingham and, more recently, the

Trent Hotel at Raddiffe, "With hind-

sight, I wish I had stayed in foot-

ball on the coaching side because

now developing a PR company, or-

ganising sports forums and cor-

porate golf days. He is an

eight-handicapper himself. Divorced, he has a 25-year-old

daughter, Yolanda, a son, Dami-

an, 23, and became a grandfather

shortly before Christmas

Having left the pub trade he is

I gurte miss it." he said.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

the likes of England, South Africa or Australia. At the very highest level they can be muscled out of a game hut in terms of ball handling, rucking and hody positioning they set the henchmarks in the northern hemisphere.

The corpse that was Welsh rugby is definitely twitching - albeit intermittently. Seven tries, hags of optimism and some genuine passion all augur well for their summer sojourn in Australia. At last they have a competitive line-out, a reasonable scrum, an excellent scrumhalf and an interesting midfield. What they don't have is two big, powerful, ball-handling backrow forwards to go with Gwyn Jones who, as an out-and-out open-side flanker, suits their style of play really well. What Wales wouldn't give for the likes of Rodber, Diprose, Ojomoh or Corry - none of whom can make the English back row Welsh incumbents. Ireland look a fraction more

organised this season, although whether this is an advantage to them is a debatable point. At home they played a good driving game and really should have beaten Scotland but they persist in picking a scrum-half whose pass is simply not up to international standard and a No 8 who can only play going for-wards. As a result their middle five didn't function as a unit consistently. Their other major weakness was a porous midfield defence which all the other nations exploited at one time or

France are in disarray. Far and away the most talented side in Europe, they amount to considerably less than the sum of their parts. Having exorcised the English demon they proceeded to fritter away all the gains of the past 12 months in a bizarre series of selectorial hlunders. To play Abdelarif Benazzi, the best back-row forward in the world. in the second row, beggars belief. Emile Ntamack is wasted on the wing and half the team are playing out of position. Away from home they lack heart and direction. All in all a mess, so put £100 on them to win the Grand Slam next year

 and do it now. And in the midst of all this. on the other side of the world. the first games of the new Super-12 competition took place. Played under yet another set of law changes it looks fast, skil-ful and physical on TV. Wales and Scotland visit the southern hemisphere this summer - will they have closed the gap since the World Cup? Somehow I



Phillips shows leadership skills

of the Royal Family to win an international rugby union cap, took centre-stage again yester-day helping Gordonstoun into the last 32 of the National Schools Sevens at Rosslyn Park,

writes Paul Morgan. With the Gordonstoun side missing two other internationals through injury, Phillips' leadership qualities were vital as his

team dug deep to win all four second match, a 34-14 win over flanker Tim Rodber. "He's natof their group games in the Festival Competition, for one-term

rugby schools.

Phillips started the day with a try as Stoun beat Bedfordshire's Cedars School 43-0 and then created a try for Matt Shute in the 17-14 victory over Whitgift. His mother, the Princess Royal, and his sister, Zara, were on the sidelines fur the

was instrumental in two tries. He saved his best until last sprinting 70 yards for a vital try against Lancing as his school struggled to clinch the win they

King Edward's, Bath, when he

needed to progress to the next round where they will face the Norfolk school, Gresham's. His performance won admiring glances from the England

urally aggressive and fits in well with the pattern of back-row play adopted in Scotland, he said. The most popular competi-

tion of its kind, now in its 58th year, hrings together almost 4,500 boys from schools and colleges. The junior and preparatory schools tournaments starts today with the Open tournament beginning tomorrow.

place in the Bath rugby league team. . The Wigan wing Martin Offiah thinks that each club will win its own game. "We have no chance of winning the rugby unioo game, but that is not the point of the matches. It will be a showcase for individual players to reveal their talents and i would welcome an opportunity to play for a rugby union club

> The Wasps and England threequarter, Damian Hopley, has been appointed captain of England for the Hong Kong Sevens, which take place at the end of the month. The rest of the squad will be named on Sunday. Gloucester have unveiled plans for a new £15m, 18,000 capacity stadium at their Kingsholm ground.

The Welsh Rugby Union admits Gareth Llewellyn will almost certainly be a Harlequin next season despite its block on his transfer request."It is no secret within the WRU that a number of people think this reg-ulation is unsustainable," said Selwyn Walters, the chairman of the committee which turned Llewellyn's request down.

FESTIVAL TOURNAMENT: Group A: Abresion O Monrough 31; Sendy, Errn Tech 45 T Tourning 34, Sendy 25, Mangoon 15; Abregon 34 Normouch 15; Abregon 36 Technology 25; Mangoon 36 Technology 25; Mangoon 16 Normouch 16; Abregon 37; Abregon 26; Abregon 27; Abregon 17; Argund 18; Abregon 18; Argund 18; Argund 18; Argund 19; Bearwood 78; Bearwood 78; Bearwood 78; Argund 19; Bearwood 78; Bearwood 78; Argund 19; Bearwood 78; Bearwood 78; Argund 19; Bearwood 78; Bea

rigerator can store : MINCEME at. iam The Fridge Perry take on 😘 ttish Claymores. April 14th,

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Sri Lanka tired but rewarded Cricket

21.6

2.2

12.39

Bas ...

beand trio's crucial

Forest determined to stifle Klinsmann

One goal, that is all Notting-ham Forest require against Bayern Munich at the City Ground tonight, but goals do not come easily to Frank Clark's men.

The MARKET BEING

14, arrested

Her pay damages

others' ban lifted

Success to the same

The state of

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er gun thefts

They have managed just five in seven Uefa Cup ties, the lat-est being Steve Chettle's header in the 2-1 first-leg defeat in

Munich a formight ago.
That away goal has put Forest a 1-0 win away from being the first English team to make the Ucfa Cup's last four in a dozen years. Not since Forest themselves, and eventual winners Tottenbam (remember Tony Parks' penalty heroics m the final), made the 1984 semi-

Sri Lanka

tired but

rewarded

The Sri Lankan team arrived

back home yesterday to the ex-

sected red carpet treatment

after their seven-wicket victory

over Australia in Sunday's World Cup final. They were met-

on the airport tarmac by dancers, hundreds of fans and

the obligatory government minister seeking to associate

The squad was blessed by

Buddhist monks before meeting

the country's president, Chand-

rika Kumaratunga. The team

looked tired and attributed their

fatigue to lack of sleep. "We've

hardly had any time to cele-brate," Arjuna Ranatunga, their

captain, said. "We've hardly

had any sleep. Maybe that's

when they see all the prizes that.

are to be festooned on them. If

cash and cars were not enough

the Maldivian president, Mau-

moon Abdul Gayoom, has

invited the team for an all-

expenses paid holiday in the

Taylor, believes the game is facing an uncertain future unless the games' rulers act deci-

sively. "There's a lot that has to

be looked into at the moment.

throwing. We've got to stop

sweeping them under the car-

The departing West Indies manager, Wes Hall, has criti-

cised the West Indies Cricket

ing managerial changes while

World Cup. "I think the timing.

of the changes was deplorable

and at some stages I think dia-

defeat to Kenya the WICBC an-

nounced that Hall and the team

coach, Andy Roberts, would be

After the West Indies' shock

his team was still involved in the this weekend.

Board of Control for announc-

Things like ball-tampering and

The losing captain, Mark

Those red eyes may widen

why the red eyes."

Maldives islands.

pet," he said.

bolical," be said.

himself with success.

Cricket

finals has an English club pro-gressed as far. Once the property of England, with nine wins in 14 years, it has become an Italian fiefdom.

While Forest were held at Middlesbrough at the weekend, Bayern briefly went top of the Bundesliga by beating Kaiserslauten (Borussia Dortmund have since displaced them). However, all is not well. Mehmet Scholl, the most influential player in the first leg, was dismissed on Saturday and there are continued reports of disaffection in the ranks - not that Clark was making any-

thing of them.
"We have been hearing that

from day one," the Forest manager said. "It does not seem to have done them any harm. You get personality elashes in any dressing-room."

Clark speaks from experience. Stan Collymore was a man apart from his team-mates and. manager during Forest's final 13 matches last season, yet they won nine and drew the other

"They are going to give us a tremendous test," Clark added. "I have always thought we are capable of getting past them, but only our best form will do it. Forest will have Colin Cooper back from suspension and with Des Lyttle restored to the

Glenn Moore on the prospects for tonight's Uefa Cup

quarter-final

right-back position, their regular European defensive unit (two goals conceded in six games) will be in place. They are ware that Bayern are strong on the counter-attack - they scored five away to Lokomotiv Moscow in a previous round, after losing the first leg.

Jürgen Klinsmann, who scored twice that night and in the first leg against Forest, has now scored 12 goals in the

London's Refrigerator says 'hello Piccadilly, hello Leicester Square'

competition. Although he will injury, Jason Lee, who has not one the Football Association be without his injured partner. Alexander Zickler, he remains the main threat.

"The difference between Bayern and the French teams we played [Auxerre and Lyon] is that they are capable of scoring goals out of nothing, especially Klinsmann. That is why we cannot throw ourselves at them looking for the quick goal," Steve Stone said.

Even if Forest stop Klinsmann, they still have to get that goal. No Forest player has managed double figures this season and their top scorer and most inspirational forward. Bryan Roy, is struggling with a thigh

started a game this year, stands

Stone and Ian Woan, who both missed the Middlesbrough match through injury, should return, but Forest will be without the suspended Scot Gemmill in midfield. David Phillips is likely to deputise if fit.

"Not too many people are giving us a chance." Cooper said. "but the same people thought we would get beaten in every round so far.

Forest's preparation has not been helped by unfounded speculation linking Clark to the England post. While he would have made and Clark himself appeared angered, rather than Dattered, by the report.

"I have not had any contact with any representatives of the FA," he said. "It is embarrassing tome at a time when all our cfforts should be focused."

All the same, should Forest gain a tactical and actual victory tonight, the prospect of Clark succeeding Terry Venables would harden from unlikely to intriguing. However, while Bayern are not the stuft of Bavarian legend, neither are Forest. and neither Clark, nor his team. are likely to progress in the im-

Ferguson handed European chance

Duncan Ferguson was yesterday given the chance to prove he is the man to lead Scotland's challenge for Euro 96 when Craig Brown named him in a 23-man squad for next Wednesday's friendly international against Australia at Hampden Park.

However, the Everton striker must first prove his litness and vesterday he saw a specialist to see if he needs a third hernia operation in the space of year. Ferguson and his club manager. Joe Royle, will go through the doctor's report and advice today.
"We would like Duncan to

start the game against Australia next week." Brown said. "There has been talk of him having an operation this summer, in which circumstance he would clearly be no use to us.

Brown had assembled 32 players for a get-together a fortnight ago, but now, as preparations for Euro 96 begin n earnest, nine players have been iettisoned.

The ones left our have not been bombed out," Brown said. "But this squad is a clear indication of my thoughts for Euro

The nine players dropping out, apart from the injured Stewart McKimmie of Aberdeen are: Gordon Durie (Rangers), Bryan Gunn (Norwich), John McGinlay (Bulton), Brian Martin (Motherwell). Phil O'Donnell (Celtic), Brian O'Neil (Celue). John Robertson (Hearts) and Duncan Shearer (Aberdeen).

If Ferguson, 24, is fit, he will win his sixth cap next week. while his former Rangers teammate. Ally McCoist, could enter the Scottish Football Association's "Hall of Fame" if he receives his 50th cap.

"It will be a hard game for us and I would say if we lost, that would be a blow in the preparations." Brown said.

rations." Brown said.
scotLand Squall (v Australia, Hampden Park, Wedneaday 27 March): Booth IAberleeni, Boyd (Celtz), Burley (Chelsea), Calderwood (Totrenham), Collins "Celtz", Ferguson (Everon), Sallacher (Blachburn), Gemmill (Noum Forest), Goram (Rangers), Hendry (Blachburn), Jackson (Hös), Jess (Coverny), Leighton (Hös), Medlister (Leeds), McCall (Hangers), McColst (Rangers), McCall (Hangers), McColst (Rangers), McCall (Hangers), McColst (Rangers), McColst (Ran

Open-door policy criticised

Super Bowl with the Chicago Bears in his first NFL

season, said he is ready for the challenge. "I've still got a

good three or four years left in me and i wanted to do something different," he said. Photograph: Robert Hallam

Basketball

Monarchs. The World League of American Football

very bard decisions on this and

it's very hard for us to come and swallow our pride," said the for-

mer Test centres Chris Johns, a-

spokesman for the Super

The problem is that the ARL

might find some of the players'

suggestions equally hard to

swallow. The ARL's chairman,

day by representatives of the 12

clubs that have remained loval

to the ruling body during the

Morkey, who will play in this Sat-urday's Silk Cut Challenge Cup

has signed a new four-year con-

The Leeds forward, Adrian

League players.

bitter feud.

Great Britain tour at the end of this season. Ken Arthurson, said that the proposal would be discussed to-

tainly changing their ground.
A lot of players have made tract with the club.

have signed him partly to play, partly to head their

marketing campaign for their season that starts next month. Perry, 33, who scored a touchdown in the 1986

DUNCAN HOOPER

The Budweiser League will throw open its doors to foreign players next season, scrapping the current limit of two imports per club. Next season, when the salary cap will be increased by 35 per cent, clubs will be required to have only five British players on their roster, allowing for five foreigners. This interim step beralds further relaxation in the number of

foreigners set to play in Britain. Behind yesterday's statement that "we will be creating an even semi-final against Bradford, more exciting product with

chief executive, Mike Smith, is plainly aware of the minefield they have decided to cross.

Few quality Americans or Eu-ropeans will be attracted by the salary-capped English game, and some clubs will find it cheaper to import the likes of own development programmes.

short-term quick fix by loading with foreigners," Smith said. We know there is a danger of that. When the clubs started to discuss this move none of us were happy that we can no longer safeguard the places of English players at English clubs.

and that there isn't going to be a return flow of the best players from other countries." The England team coach, Laszlo Nemeth, said: "It is sad

news. It definitely cannot help

English players or the national team." He would prefer to boost Hungarians, Czechs and Lat- the status of domestic players, vians, rather than nurture their rather than attract foreigners. Basketball's international "Some clubs may go for the federation, Fiba. is to allow freedom of movement between EU countries, but Smith said: "We believe Fiba will be forced to go totally open all over Europe.

and that's 50 countries." But next season, any league club with up to five foreigners will have to abide by the existmore top-quality overseas talent on display," the League's best players will move abroad European club competitions. ing Fiba "two foreigner" rule in

TODAY'S NUMBER

58

The position Tim Henman now occupies in the world tennis rankings. The 21-year-old from Oxford is only 13 places behind the Canadian-born Greg Rusedski, who, at No 45, is Bntain's highest-ranked

(7-2); Notonyu 15-41 bi Saiki (3-6); Nyokuswasan (8-1) bi Wakanoyama (6-3); Tokusuneda (4-5) bi Sunahama (2-7).

NEWSWERK CHAMPIONS CUP MEN'S TOUR-NAMENT (Indian Wells, Calif) Finds M Crong (US) of P Haamus (Neth) 7-5 6-1 6-1. COPEN MICE) MEN'S OPEN Singles Since C Points (Fr) It R Carken (Den) 6-2 7-6.

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INDEPENDENT

Tennis

the two new clubs formed for replaced for the forthcoming series against New Zealand. Super League - the Adelaide

Brett Morley, David Cutter and John Bell face two more deci- well, with Tony Allcock and sive matches in the eighth World Bowls Championships in Adelaide today. The England trio hauled themselves back from the brink of defeat vesterday to

jail a bir yesterday with a nar- and Neil Burkett. However, a lastrow win but Hong Kong too started with a victory and that

Durham Wasps are the first of

England trio's crucial games makes this one a crunch

Rugby League

In the first real sign of com-

promise for months, Super

League players in Australia

have offered to lift their boycott

on playing in the Australian Rugby League's competition

in time to start the season there

The condition the 311 players

have set is that they should be

allowed to organise their own

international series - between

New South Wales, Queensland

and New Zealand - open only

They are also insisting that

to Super League players.

DAVE HADFIELD

match," Bell said. England's pairs also started Andy Thomson coasting to a 25-9 win over Brazil. They too face a double challenge, meeting Botswana and Singapore today.

Scotland, the defending pairs Wer Zimbabwe and now face
Hong Kong and Fiji.
The Hong Kong match is a vital one for us. We got out of jail a bir vesterday with the control of the control end single salvaged a 21-20 victory for the title holders.

Reading on attack over

Super Leaguers set to lift ban

Rams and the Hunter Valley

Mariners - should be incorpo-

rated in the ARL's Optus Cup.

The European Super League's chief executive Mau-

rice Lindsay, who is in Australia

to try to find a way out of the

impasse, says the compromise

could also save the proposed-

World Club Championship and

"The proposal provides a reasonable deal for everyone,"

be said. "It would, in fact, be

a small victory for all parties

The players, who have in-

sisted all along that they would

not play for the ARL, are cer-

Weighing in at approximately 25st William Perry made his

acquaintance with a couple of archetypal London tourist

icons yesterday as the man better known as "The

Refrigerator started his new job with the London

competitions organiser, said: "It is extremely regrettable, but in Olympic year it is very difficult to fit everything in and the cepted long after the cup final date had been decided. We will naturally listen to any protest from the clubs and to any alternative suggestions."

Athletics Wang Junua who cracked the world 3,000 and 10,000 metres records in 1993, has changed her mind about retiring and is training for the Atlanta Olympics, China's official Hainan Daily reported.

The England team manager, Ctro Clingso, wants the sport's Olympic qualifying process completely over-hauled. He has been disturbed by the number of players withdrawing from tour naments at short notice as the 31 March Olympic qualifying deadline looms. De-feats in tournaments could damage a player's chances of being selected.

Raskethall

Dennis Rodman, the Chicago Bulls for-ward is likely to be suspended when the NBA decodes the punsiment for his be-haviour during Saturday's game at New Jersey that included head-butting

New Jersey that included need-boung a referee. NBA: Charlotte 103 Phoens. 102; Detroit 91 Denver 81; Cleveland 1.15 Secramento 84; Indiana 105 Toronto 95; Minnesona 90 Van-couver 85; Boston 107 New Jersey 106 idou-ble 6/U: Portland 1.12 Dallas 88; LA Lakers 97 Ortando 98.

Bawis
Worth ChampionsHPS (Adelaida) Pairs,
First round: Section A: Argentina b: Nembra
26-18: Israel bt Maiawi 33-5: Norton Island b:
Western Samos 32-18: Southed bt South Arts
21-20. Section D: Australia bt Botsusina 2218: England bt Breaz 15-9: Fig bt Guernary 2416: Singapore bt Zamba 19-17. Triples, First
round: Section A: Australia bt Israel 15-12Guernsry bt Nema 20-11: US bt Snagapore 2519. Section B: Argentina bt Corsi-Islands 2714; Island bt Makayes 21-11; South Africa bt
Swepland 25-12; Wales bt Thadand 44-7. Section B: Carada bt Botsusina 27-12; Soction bt
Linesey 18-13; Zamba bt Western Samos 1814, Section D: England bt Zimbabe 17-16:
Fig bt Papua New Guerna 25-8: Hong Kong bt
Norolk Island 18-13; New Zealand bt Matawa
35-7.

SPORTING DIGEST

Motor racing

vantage of a spectacular slump by Danielle Ammaccapane to win the Ping-Welch Championship in Tucson, Ari-zona, Neumann started the final round four shots behind Ammaccapane, but fired a four-under-par 68 to beat Cathy Johnston-Forbes by one stroke with a

RICE: REPUBLISHE PLAY-OFFS: Group A: BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY-OFFS: Group A: Brough B: Durken's Cerdiff 2: Promotion Office gation play-offs: Group A: Blackburn 8 Million parties 5: Guidrion 6 Brachnel 3: Group B: Stogh 2: Marchester 7; Swindon 11: Durning 9: Stogh 2: Marchester 7; Swindon 11: Durning 9:

ice skating

qualifying group.

WORLD FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS (Edmonton, Alberta): Mee'n qualitying round & 1 R Galardo (US) 1.0: 2 P Holdender (US) 2.0: 3 Zhengon Guo (Ch) 3.0: 6 N Wisson (GB) 6.0. Mee'n qualitying round fit 1 T Horda (Jap) 1.0: 2 S Britten (Carl 2.0: 3 M Tyliesen (Den) 3.0:

Former grand prix driver Mark Blundell suffered only a broken toe after a spectacular 190mph crash against the perimeter well in the Rio de Janeiro IndyCar race, won by Brazilian Andre Dibere from the Rio de Janeiro IndyCar race, won by Brazilian Andre Riberro from the American Al Unser Jnr

Rugby League The majority shareholder at Workington Town, Torn Mitchell, says that the club's

financial problems are close to solution

Plans are being developed to move the headquarters of the International Yacht Racing Union, the sport's world governing body, from its recently acquired building in Waterloo, London, to new premises in Southampton or Brighton, where others like the Offshore Racing Council and the windsuring organisation could also be housed.

Surino
SPRING GRAND TOURINAMENT (Ocaha, ninth
day of 15): Ganju (2-5) bt Shikashma (4-5): Nasugaity (5-4) bt Terao (5-4): Hamanoshma (5-4)
or Dashoho (5-4-1)Walashbyo (5-4) ot Nobelptu (4-5): Monatoly (5-4) bt Namoshma (2-7): Tourinolessia (4-5): Nobelptu (3-6) bt Namoshma (4-5): Nobelptu (3-6) bt Namoshma (4-5): Nobelptu (4-5): bt Opnorana (4-5): Almoshma (4-5): Almoshma (4-5): Monatoly (4-5): Monato

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ice hockey

Football LIEFA CUP QUARTER-FINAL SECOND LEG Notira Forest (1) v Bayers Memich (2) (8.6) Rome (0) v Slavia Prague (2)

Bordonek (0) y Milato (2 ... FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP Aslam Villa y Mikidiashrong ENDSLEIGH LEAGUE

FIRST DIVISION Ameloy V Huddensfield (7.45)... Crystal Patees v Luton (7.45)..... Ipswich v Didintry (7.45)..... Brading v Southend (7.45)

ractions v Notts County (7.45) Brenderd v Carllele (7,45) — ChosterBeld v Wyndown Crame v Burnley — Oxford Utd v Swindon (7,45)

mehdale v Torosav... Woking v Slough (7.45) SPALDING CHALLENGE COP SOMETINAL FROM LEG

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE Premier Division Dorchester v Sudbury In 1 7.45); Gresley Rovets v Gloupster; Hatestwen v Ruehden & D'monds,

ICIS LEAGUE Premier Division: Borehem Wood v Entleid; Brotniey v Chartsey Town (7.45); Cur-ehakon v Behop's Storfford (7.45); Dulwich v Hayses: St Alberis u Kingstonen (7.45); Malton & Hersham v Molesey (7.45). First Division: Berkhamsted Town v Bestingstole Town: Hey-bridge Swifts v Aldershot Town. Second Divi-sions Bedford Town v Wenthor Town: Bracknet Town v Hernel Hempstead; Leatherhead v Dock-ing, Metropolitan Police v Hampton; Tabury v Seffron Walden Town: Ware v Senstead Am-lete. Third Divisions: East Thurnock United v Lewes; Epsom & Ewell v Windson & Ebor; Hare-field United v Caption; Leighton Town v Awaley; Lewes; Epcom & Buelt v Windoor & Ettor; Hare-heid United v Clapton; Leighton Town v Aveley; Scuthigil v Cambarley Town; Weeldstone v Hen-ford Town. INTERLIBIK, EUPRESS; MIDLAND: ALLIANCE; Barnest v Bisherial; Crassitivar v West Midands; Potice; Okthury Unisad v Biolidines St Michellis; Pershore: Town v Sambrell Borough; Rushall Olympic v Bolehall Swifts; Shepshed Dynamo v Midenhall Youn.

UNITED SUSSEX LEAGUE First Divisions Crowborough Ath v Halisham Town; Southwick V WICE.

JEWSON LEAGUE Premier Division: Felentum
Town v Halsteed Town: Stoamsrive Town v Dass
Town: Watton Utd v Consed Ltd; Wisbech Town
Green Yemouth Town; Woodbridge Town v Felustous Town; Wrothan v Haveshid Towers.

Rugby Union

the eight Premier Division sides to confirm a Wembley place at the end of the month for the British Championship final, writes Steve Pinder. Durham overcame Cardiff

Durham reach Wembley final

Humberside on Saturday. Group A has Sheffield Steelers one point ahead of Nottingham Panthers and Basirigstoke Bison. Bison beat both Sheffield and Fife Flyers, but lost to Panthers 6-3. If the two teams tie on points, progression to Wembley will be decided on games played between the two. Panthers are one game ahead,

meet in their play-off game at

cup final date

concerned."

Reading took advantage of yesterday's draw for the HA Cup semi-finals to express dismay that the final will be held when their Great Britain players are at a tournament in Malaysia, writes Bill Colwill.

The final will be held on 12 May, and Richard Wyatt, the Reading manager, voiced the feelings of all four clubs when he said: "I am dismayed. After all. for the winners European comperition is at stake and no club should be asked to play short."

Stephen Barlow, the HA invitation to Malaysia was ac-

BRITISH WOMEN'S INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS (Lisnelli) Singles, 84th-finals: England rail finanti to Wates (8 Morgan) 21-12: Scotland () Undones to University to Irrebard (8 Liw) 21-11. Singles finals Undones to Brown 21-10. Palms, semi-finalst Wates (C Morgan and J Danest bt Irreland IM J Campbell and N Mortgomery) 16-15: England II. Woodley and M Protei it Sociland (M Gray and O Bannerman) 23-15. Finals England to Wates 23-17. Triples, semi-finalst wates 1. Evens it freshed (M Midery 21-11. Scotland (E McGarver) to England (B Trafford) 19-5. Finals Sociland to Wates 21-8. Fours, semi-finals: England W Adams) bt Sociland iR Cansemi 19-15, Wates (R Society to Ireland iN Alefy) 30-6. Finals Wates to England 19-15 (ust-land in University Intelland in Valedy) 30-6. Finals Wates to England 19-15 (ust-land in University Intelland III.

TIRRENO-ARRIATICO RACE Sixth stage: (1935m, from Tuneo sul Trasimeno to Amendenti I it unicos stampil: 1 M Bartoli Air 46mm 42set; 2 R Soversen (Den) +34set; 3 L Gelfi 5/L Overall standingts: 1 F Casagrano 26m 56m 48set; 2 A Goritchenkov (Uni +23set; 3 G Pianegonda +29.

Football

INDER-18 SQUADS for European Youth Tourmissent, Indermediary qualifier, first leg at
Motherwell today; ENGLAND: Dungay (Pymouth). Lutes (Preston). Curtis (Marcheser
I), Wellevork (Mancheser II), Ferdinand (Mest
Harn), Jackson (Leeds). Growe (French, Barrott (Hewcoste), Shephard (Jeeds). Clemenoe
(Foornham). Piper (Mimbledon). Casaldy (Invespool, Bridges (Sunderand), Hesley (Invespool, Bridges (Sunderand, Hesley) (Invespool, Bridges (Sunderand, Hesley) (Invespool, Bridges (Sunderand, Hesley) (Invespool, Bridges (Sunderand, Hesley) (Investore).

SCOTLAND: Anthony (Coloc), Archer (Notregion). Forguson (Fangers), Kally (Debt),
Medical (Cebtol, Medicale) (Motherwell), McMeyer (Edinand). Medicale (Fangers),
Naisgnith (Hearts), Policick (St Mirror). Scringer (St Mirror), Whiteford (St Jonespone). Football

HOTE BAY HALL SAVEANIONAL TOLSRAMMENT (Orlando, Fla) Leading final accrets (US unless stated): 276 P Coydos 67 14 67 67 . 276 J https://discountry.05 70 69 69. 279 C Paun 69 70 72 68: R Garner 74 67 69 69: M Calcavecta 70 74 66 69: B Gisson 11 70 68 70; M O'Means 67 72 69 71, 280 T Lehman 69 75 68 60: G Day 67 71 72 70; S Jones 69 70 70 71: L Nelson 71 70 67 72, 281 8 Langer

CLUB MATCHES: Bath v Army (7, 15) Lydney v Gaucester (7,00) Maesleg v Aberbley (7,00) Mountain Ash v Aberbley (7,00) Northambon v RAF Penarth v Cross Keys (7,00). WRED MEDWEEK COMPETITION Semi-fimais: Durwant v Caerphilly 17.01. Other Sports BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Chester Jets v London Towers (B.0)

ITALY **SWITZERLAND** NORTH AMERICA Beaver Creekpckd pwdr

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Devils 3-2 through Kimmo Maki-HA CUP Semi-finate: Teddington v Reading Old Loughtonlene v East Grintlead. (Ties to be played at Milton Keynes on 28 April). Kokilla's second-period goal and tomorrow's short programme in the World Figure Skating Chempionships at Alberta, Edmonton, finishing suth in his then heat Newcastle Warriors 5-0. Humberside look likely to join having already drawn against them from Group B. The two Basingstoke. HA TROPHY Semi-final: Norwich City v Covertry & North Warvick; West Herts v York Trojans. (Ties to be played 3.1 March). TODAY'S FIXTURES Snow reports North West Counties League First Di vision: Burscrugh v Nevcestle Town Eestwoo. Hanley v Skelmersdale United Fixton v Kids-grove Athletic Setland City v Bootle. LEAGUE OF WALES: Bangor City v Porthmodog Connatr's Quay v Rhyt; Llansaratkad v Briton Fer-ry (8.0). THIRD DIVISION Bury y Hereford AUSTRIA ISH LEAGUE COCA-COLA FLOODLIT CUP FI-Colchester v Combridge Utd (7.45)
Leytes Orient v Scenborough (7.45) MORTHERN COUNTIES EAST League Premier Oktober: Armthoge Welfare v Hadleid Main Bings Town v Ossett Town, mat Cirtumete v Gergoren (Windsor Park, Betast). PONTINS LEAGUE First Olivision: Derby v Mar-Utd 17.01; Shed Wed v Everton 17.01; Rother-...dosed 90% 11.3 Lincoln v Sarpet (7.45). WINSTONLEAD KENT (EAGUE First Division: Folkestone trivicta v Ramsgate Tunbnogo Wells i Furness. Northerupton v Hartispool (7.45) ham FC): Transere v Bolton (7.0). Second Di vision: Coverto; v Huli (7.0); Grimsby v Asto

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'The success story of the championship was Scotland. In Italy they were awful, on paper they were moderate, but a well balanced back row and gifted half-backs can take you a long way in rugby Mark Evans, the Saracens coach, gives a critical overview of the Five Nations

Clark rejects England speculation

Football

Frank Clark believes almost every manager in the Premicrship is in the frame for the England manager's job, but that has not stopped the bookmakers William Hill closing their book on who will succeed Terry Venahles.

Their decision followed the Nottingham Forest manager's dismissal of reports that he is to work alongside Venables for Euro 96 before taking over.

"Clearly moves are atoot to approach certain potential managers and the Foothall Association must have a hit list of people they wish to sound out," Hill's spokesman. Graham

Sharpe, said.
"We have no idea who they may be but would not be surprised if plenty of other people do, which would make it furancial suicide for us to continue

Clark, whose team face Bay-ern Munich in the Uefa Cup tonight, had been heavily hacked recently with his odds being cut from 10-1 to 4-1 third favourite. The Leeds manager, Howard Wilkinson, was the 7-4 favourite and Tottenham's Gerry Francis the next best at

2-1 when the book was closed. "Speculation is inevitable because almost every Premier League manager could be put in the frame. Clark said. "But to say England are about to appoint me is going too far. I haven't had any contact with the

Gary Speed's hopes of ap-pearing in Sunday's Coca-Cola Cup final at Wembley still hang in the balance after visiting a specialist today. The Leeds midfielder suffered a fractured cheekbone in an FA Cup tie with Port Vale last month and was originally expected to be out around three months.

But Speed is desperately keen to play in the final against Aston Villa and his manager Wilkinson has to decide whether to risk the Welsh international. After the doctor's verdict yesterday, Wilkinson said: "All I can say at this stage

is that I can't rule Gary out. Wilkinson decided not to chance him in Sunday's 2-2 draw with Everton, although his gifted midficlder could have a short-term solution by wearing a protective mask, similar to the one worn effectively by Paul

Gascoigne.
And his experience could be a key factor in the club's hid to secure a place in Europe for the

second successive season. Leeds have a husy week in the run-up to Wembley and face Liverpool at Antield tomorrow in an FA Cup quarter-final

However, if Speed is to have a run-out before the final, it is more likely to come the following day wheo the reserves travel to Stoke in the Pootins League. Speed was one of a number of regulars missing in the match against Everton, mainly through injury and sus-pension as Leeds fielded five players aged 21 or under.

Herzog brands Bayern as 'vain superstars'

Bayeru Munich were branded "vain superstars" hy one of their own players on the eve of their second-leg Uefa Cup tie at Nottingham Forest, writes

Bayern's Austrian midfielder. Andy Herzog, who is currently seeking a transfer, said: This team is a bunch of vain different, it is looked on as a sign Championship this summer.

ACROSS

Depart humorously as in-

sect's let nut and away

6 One who comes out about

lying? (4) 10 Bend box accommodating

11 CtA has penury imposed

because of money (9)

13 Moral quibble which has

little gravity (7) 14 Intimate his changes after

17 Sue, junior, sins grievous-

taking a new drug (13)

ly, revealing a harmful na-

old women (2-3)

Herzog hlames the Bayern coach, Otto Rehhagel, for failing to control the players. "He is too nice a man. Bayern need a dictator, not a trainer."

More upset for Bayern yesterday came when Lothar Matthaus was dropped from the Germany squad for the 27 March game against Denmark, superstars. Nobody wants to do raising doubts whether the forthe dirty work during the games. If anybody dares to do called up for the European

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

in association with

Glenn Moore, page 23 Leeds.

Their influential captain, Gary McAllister, will definitey face Liverpool after being ordered to rest by his manager while the injured pair, Tony Yeboah and Tony Dorigo, could also return.

The central defender David Wetherall will again he missing as he completes his two-match ban as Leeds aim to take a step closer to another Wemhley ap-

Bolton yesterday agreed terms with Aston Villa to sign the former England Under-21 defender Bryan Small, who will sign oo a free transfer subject to a routine medical.

The Bolton manager, Colin Todd, who has been searching for several months to find a left-sided defender, said: Several clubs were in the hunt for Bryan, including Nottingham Forest, and we are delighted he has agreed to come

Small will go straight into Bolton's squad for tomorrow night's Premiership home match with Tottenham Hotspur when a win would lift the Burnden Park side off bottom place for the first time in four

The French coach, Aimé Jacquet, continued to omit his English exiles Eric Cantona and David Ginola when he camed a squad of 16 to play Belgium in a warm-up match for Euro 96 on 27 March. The pair were left out even though two key midfielders, Youri Djorkaeff and Vincent Guerin, are injured. The Paris St-Germain defender Alain Roche, who has missed most of the season with a serious knee injury, has

been recalled.

General Anghel lordanes-cu, coach of European Championship finalists Romania, resigned yesterday, saying his al-legations of match rieging in lo-cal championships had been

"I want to give up training the national team because I have repeatedly warned about match rigging, and measures to redress [that situation] have been delayed," Jordanescu said.

Romania will compete alongside Spain, Bulgaria and France in Euro 96 Group B. which is based in Newcastle and

Honour accepted by

of warmth (5)

a novel (7)

esecrate (9)

Queen which shows a bit

In which the fittest will

survive as a rule, being wild (3.2.3.6)

Harry has work on paper?

This could be florid if such

Make charge about woman holding power to

It helps one relax for the rest of the 24 hours? (3-3)

Retailing which amounts

to doing nothing and cheating (7.7)

15 Dogs will need support in slow-moving traffic (4-5)

16 A drug which is out of this world? (8)

18 Man's free to cat fish (7)

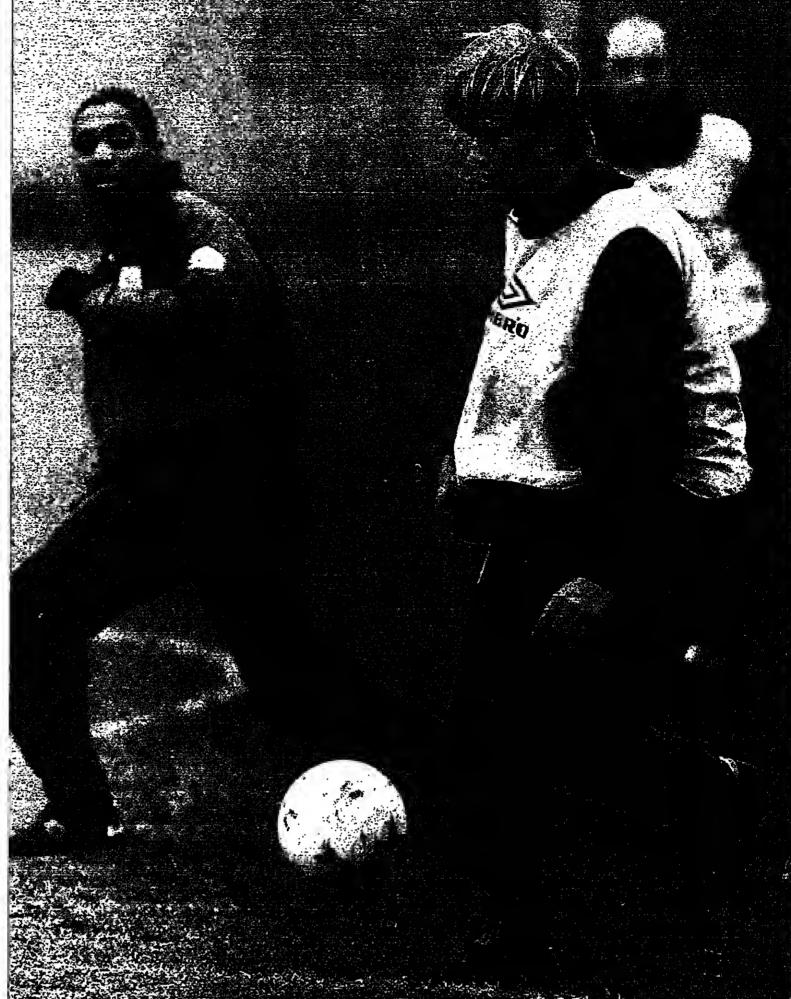
19 Nothing at breakfast, say?

20 Protest as outside broad-cast requires 100 to be put

23 Assign a charge for cross-

in plane (6)

ing over (5)



Bryan Roy (left) watches his Nottingham Forest team-mate, Alf Inge Haaland, in training for their Uefa Cup match tonight

Lottery money sought

MIKE ROWBOTTOM

British athletics is submitting a major National Lottery bid this week which could transform the parlous financial position of the sport in this country and underpin the development of elite performers through to the year

The bid, which seeks several million pounds in funding spread over the next six years, has been put together by Mike Whitting-ham, the former Olympic 400 metres hardler who now coaches athletes such as Roger Black and acts as a consultant for the

Such an idea has been mooted in the past, but has foundered on two main points. The first has been a straightforward lack of treasurer. John Lister. an-

The second vexed area has been the linking of such services with undertakings for elite athletes to take part in Britain's major televised meetings, an arrangement which was met with

some suspicion within the sport. Whittingham's proposal was developed through discussions with the BAF executive chair-man. Peter Radford, the director of coaching, Malcolm Arnold, the chief medical officer, Dr Makolm Brown, and the athletes' consultative group. headed by Black and Geoff Parsons. It intends to provide sufficient funding for the pro-gramme to exist on its own.

British athletics can no longer rely on ebb and flow of the market place," Whittingham said. "In the past it has been a Catch-22 situation - the federation has had to look after elite performers because they bring in TV and commercial money, and the cake simply

wasn't big enough to go round. "The idea behind this programme is that becomes sep-arate from the commercial on their own two feet. And if athletes can see that, they will

Whittingham envisages that around 1,000 athletes would

in countries such as Portugal, Spain and France. is going to come through,"

tingham said.

to fund future success

Athletics

British Athletic Federation. It seeks to establish a co-or-

dinated programme of services for élite and developing athletes which will provide everything from medical hack-up to fund-ing for training hreaks and competitive opportunities.

funding - at last Saturday's BAF side. It allows services to stand annual meeting, the outgoing nounced an operating loss of be only too willing to build a £174.000 for last year and closer partnership with the warned of "painful" years ahead.

benefit from the programme over a six-year period that encompasses 43 major championships, including two Olympic Games. It would chime in with the philosophy of government assistance which has been operating with increasing success

"Everyone is wondering where the next Linford Christie, Sally Gunnell or Colin Jackson Whittingham said. "They are going to come through from this programme."
The initiative is timed to fit

in with the widening of Lottery funding from capital to revenue projects which was announced

in principle in February.

Whittingham attended the launch of the Prime Minister's sporting initiative, Raising The Game, in July and took the op-portunity to hand John Major synopsis of his plan.

He has since made presen-

tations alongside Arnold, to both the Minister for Sport, Iain Sproat, and the Shadow Minster for Sport, Tom Pendrey.

"We had very positive feed-back from both of them," Whit-

Bruno waits as Tyson marches on

Frank Brune was considering retirement when he arrived back in London yesterday, as the world champion. Mike ivson, contemplated more riches and more glory.

"I'm not too sure," he said when asked whether he planned to retire after losing his World Boxing Council title. "I'll answer Botha, who first has to meet forthat in a couple of weeks' time. mer champion Michael Moorer. in going to try to spend some

time with my family, relax, just steroids after his title victory over chill out, and recharge my hatteries.

In Las Vegas, however, the talk was of unification of the belts, with Tyson aiming at the World Boxing Association champion, Bruce Seldon, at the MGM Grand on 13 July, followed by South Africa's International Boxing Federation heavyweight champion. Frans Botha, who tested positive for take on Tyson.

terday threw down the gauntlet, declaring: "Tyson's strong and powerful, but he has no skill. I'm the white Muhammad Ali."

Britain's Lennox Lewis, by virtue of Friday's New Jersey court ruling, is next in line for the WBC title, and should find himself back at No 1 in the April list of rankings, although a re-vitalised Oliver McCall is now jostling him for pole position to

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21 Young reporter catches one VIP over description

24 Show there's no blame for

25 One adhesive said to be

old copper damaging plate

suitable for home use? (5)

of plague (7)

the fields (7)

the dark? (9)

1 British hooligan gets

American carriage (8)

12 Blunder traps trish animal 26 Time to beg for work (4) 17t 27 Pleased to he put back in